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HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS INC., HUGHES NETWORK SYSTEMS LLC, DISH NETWORK CORPORATION.



Defendants Hughes Communications Inc. ("Hughes Communications"), Hughes Network Systems LLC ("Hughes Network Systems"), DISH Network Corporation, DISH Network L.L.C., and dishNET Satellite Broadband L.L.C. ("dishNET") (collectively, "Defendants" or "Counterclaim-Plaintiffs"), by and through their undersigned attorneys, hereby answer the Complaint for Patent Infringement brought by the Plaintiff, the California Institute of Technology ("Caltech" or "Plaintiff"), as follows, with each paragraph of the Answer below responding to the corresponding numbered or lettered paragraph of the Complaint:

## **ANSWER**

## **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

- 1. Defendants admit that Caltech's Complaint purports to state a cause of action under the patent laws of the United States.
- 2. Defendants deny the allegation that Defendants infringe or infringed, in any way, U.S. Patent No. 7,116,710, U.S. Patent No. 7,421,032, U.S. Patent No. 7,916,781, or U.S. Patent No. 8,284,833 (collectively, "the Asserted Patents"). Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to whether Caltech is the legal owner of the Asserted Patents, or whether the Asserted Patents were duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("Patent Office"), and therefore deny them. Defendants admit that Caltech's complaint purports to seek injunctive relief and monetary damages.

# THE PARTIES

On information and belief, Defendants admit that Caltech is a non-3. profit private university organized under the laws of the State of California. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Caltech has defined Hughes Communications and Hughes Network Systems as the "Hughes Defendants." For purposes of clarity in responding to Caltech's omnlaint only Defendants use the same term

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- the remainder of the allegations in paragraph 3 of the Complaint, and therefore deny them.
  - 4. Defendants admit the allegations in paragraph 4 of the Complaint.
  - 5. Defendants admit the allegations in paragraph 5 of the Complaint.
  - 6. Defendants admit the allegations in paragraph 6 of the Complaint.
- Defendants admit the allegations in paragraph 7 of the Complaint, 7. except that DISH Network L.L.C is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of DISH Network Corporation.
- 8. Defendants admit the allegations in paragraph 8 of the Complaint, except that dishNET is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of DISH Network Corporation.<sup>2</sup>
- 9. Defendants admit that EchoStar and DISH Network Corporation were previously one company, and that in approximately January 2008, DISH completed the distribution of its technology and set-top box business and certain infrastructure assets (the "Spin-off") into a separate publicly-traded company, EchoStar Corporation ("EchoStar").
- 10. Defendants admit that Charles W. Ergen serves as the Chairman of both DISH Network Corporation and EchoStar, and that the Chairman, or certain trusts established by the Chairman, beneficially owns a substantial majority of the voting power of the shares of both DISH Network Corporation and EchoStar. Defendants further admit that, in 2010, DISH Network Corporation accounted for 82.5% of EchoStar's total revenue and in 2012, DISH Network Corporation accounted for 49.5% of EchoStar's total revenue. Defendants admit that in October 2012, dishNET and Hughes Network Systems entered into a distribution agreement relating to Hughes satellite internet service. Defendants are without

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Caltech has defined DISH Network Corporation, DISH Network L.L.C. and dishNet as the "Dish Defendants." For purposes of clarity in responding to Caltech's complaint only Defendants use the same term



knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remaining allegations of paragraph 10 of the Complaint, and therefore deny the same.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 11. Defendants admit that this Court has subject matter jurisdiction of this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 12. Paragraph 12 of the Complaint sets forth conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed to be required, however, Defendants deny the allegations of paragraph 12 of the Complaint, except that Defendants admit that Hughes Network Systems conducts business in the State of California, including in the Central District of California.
- 13. Paragraph 13 of the Complaint sets forth conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed to be required, however, Defendants deny the allegations of paragraph 13 of the Complaint, except that Defendants admit that DISH Network L.L.C., and dishNET conduct business in the State of California, including in the Central District of California.
- 14. Paragraph 14 of the Complaint sets forth conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is deemed to be required, however, Defendants deny the allegations of paragraph 14 of the Complaint, except that Defendants admit, for purposes of this action only, that venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400.

# **CALTECH'S ASSERTED PATENTS**

15. Defendants admit that the Complaint purports to attach U.S. Patent No. 7,116,710 (the "'710 Patent") as Exhibit A. Defendants also admit that the '710 Patent states on its face that it is titled "Serial Concatenation of Interleaved Convolutional Codes Forming Turbo-Like Codes" and recites an issue date of October 3, 2006. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remaining allegations in paragraph 15 of the Complaint, and therefore deny them.



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