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Adriana Cassandro
Hughes Network Systems Europe
+44 (0) 1908 425301
A.Cassandro@hugheseurope.com

Mary Cantle/John Broy
The Whiteoaks Consultancy
+44 (0) 1252 727313
maryc@whiteoaks.co.uk

Social media statement: Hughes Europe and Gate Elektronik support Turkish earthquake safety initiative with satellite communications [[Insert bit.ly link](#)]

Hughes Europe and Gate Elektronik provide satellite communications support for Turkish earthquake safety initiative

Satellite systems to provide robust back-up communications support for Istanbul region

Milton Keynes, UK, 10 October 2011— Working with local partner, Gate Elektronik, Hughes Europe is to provide satellite communications support to the ISMEP (Istanbul Seismic Risk Mitigation and Emergency Preparedness) project currently underway in Turkey.

As part of the initiative, Hughes Europe and Gate Elektronik will provide full VoIP voice and data connectivity via Hughes' proven HX satellite communications platform. By linking a Hughes network operations centre (NOC) in a new government building in Istanbul to initially 12 offices in the surrounding region, this will ensure essential back-up in the event of an earthquake or flooding damaging the primary terrestrial or GSM infrastructure.

Funded jointly by the World Bank and European Central Bank, ISMEP is a major attempt to implement best practice principles of disaster management in a highly-populated part of Turkey which is particularly vulnerable to seismic activity. In addition to maintaining emergency and ongoing communications following an earthquake, the high-throughput satellite broadband solution will allow large volumes of seismic data to be transmitted. This will enable detailed analysis of existing activity and provide early warning of any future threats.

Building work is underway in both Istanbul and the outlying locations and installation of the Hughes system should be completed by Gate Elektronik by the end of this year.

“This important project demonstrates how the best of today’s satellite technologies can help tackle a problem which threatens the lives and livelihoods of so many people,” said Christopher Britton, managing director, Hughes Europe.

“Turkey continues to be one of the most important growth markets for us in South Eastern Europe,” he confirmed, “and we are well-established locally as a provider of robust and cost-effective communications solutions to both the public and private sectors.”

Hughes Europe and Gate Elektronik support ISMEP initiative, page 2

About Hughes Europe

Hughes Europe is the European operating and sales organisation for Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES) with facilities in Germany, the UK, and Italy. Utilising its satellite hub earth station and network operations centre in Griesheim, Germany, Hughes Europe provides Hughes broadband satellite and terrestrial solutions to large enterprises, government organisations and small businesses throughout the continent, both directly and through a growing family of value-added service providers. These networks support rapid, reliable transmission of data, voice, video, and multimedia content. For more information, please visit www.hugheseurope.com.

About Hughes Network Systems

Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Hughes) is the world's leading provider of satellite broadband for home and office, delivering innovative network technologies, managed services, and solutions for enterprises and governments globally. HughesNet® is the #1 high-speed satellite Internet service in the marketplace, with offerings to suit every budget. To date, Hughes has shipped more than 2.5 million systems to customers in over 100 countries, representing over 50 percent market share. Its products employ global standards approved by the TIA, ETSI and ITU organizations, including IPoS/DVB-S2, RSM-A, and GMR-1.

Headquartered outside Washington, D.C., in Germantown, Maryland, USA, Hughes operates sales and support offices worldwide, and is a wholly owned subsidiary of EchoStar Corporation (NASDAQ: SATS), a premier global provider of satellite operations and digital TV solutions. For additional information about Hughes, please visit www.hughes.com.

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