WITH A COPY TO: MICHAEL E. LUBOWITZ, ESQ. WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP 767 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10153-0119 (212) 310-8000 APRIL 20, 2004 _____ (Date of event which requires filing of this statement) If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of Rules 13d-1(e), 13d-1(f) or 13d-1(g), check the following box [_]. (Continued on the following pages) (Page 1 of 16 Pages) _____

THE DIRECTV GROUP, INC. 2250 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245

(Title of class of securities)

COMMON STOCK, \$0.01 PAR VALUE PER SHARE

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, GENERAL COUNSEL AND SECRETARY (310) 964-0700

(Name, address and telephone number of person authorized to receive notices and communications)

PANAMSAT CORP /NEW/

Form SC 13D/A April 22, 2004

LARRY D. HUNTER, ESQ.

PANAMSAT CORPORATION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13D INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT

UNITED STATES

TO RULE 13d-1(a) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-2(a)

(AMENDMENT NO. 8)

_____ (Name of Issuer)

697933-10-9

(CUSIP number)

Edgar Filing: PANAMSAT CORP /NEW/ - Form SC 13D/A

3-10-9		13D	
		ION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY): 52-1	106564
CHECK THE AP	PROPRIA		
SEC USE ONLY	· <u> </u>		
SOURCE OF FU		N/A	
CHECK BOX IF	DISCL	OSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUAN	T TO ITEM 2(d
CITIZENSHIP	OR PLAC	CE OF ORGANIZATION:	Delaware
OF S	7	SOLE VOTING POWER:	0
ALLY BY	8	SHARED VOTING POWER:	120,812,175
I NG	9	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER:	0
IITH	10		120,812,175
AGGREGATE	AMOUNT	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON: 120	,812,175
CHECK BOX	IF THE	AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN	SHARES:
 PERCENT OF	CLASS	REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11): 80.4%	
TYPE OF RF	PORTIN(G PERSON:	 CO
	NAME OF REPO I.R.S. IDENT CHECK THE AP SEC USE ONLY SOURCE OF FU CHECK BOX IF CITIZENSHIP OF S ALLY BY NG ITH AGGREGATE CHECK BOX PERCENT OF	NAME OF REPORTING H I.R.S. IDENTIFICAT: CHECK THE APPROPRIZ SEC USE ONLY SOURCE OF FUNDS: CHECK BOX IF DISCLO CITIZENSHIP OR PLAC OF 7 S ALLY 8 BY 9 NG 1TH 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT CHECK BOX IF THE PERCENT OF CLASS	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: The DIRECTV Gro I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY): 52-1 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP: SEC USE ONLY SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION: OF 7 SOLE VOTING POWER: S ALLY 8 SHARED VOTING POWER: BY 9 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER: NG

2 CUSIP No. 697933-10-9 1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY): 95-3884435 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP:

	EC USE ONLY	<u></u>			
	OURCE OF FU				
	HECK BOX IF	ECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT			
6 C	ITIZENSHIP	OR PLAC		California	
NUMBER OF SHARES		7	SOLE VOTING POWER:	0	
BENEFICIAL OWNED BY		8	SHARED VOTING POWER:	14,477,240	
EACH REPORTING		9	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER:	0	
PERSON WIT	Н	10	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER:	14,477,240	
11	AGGREGATE	AMOUNT	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON: 14,	477 , 240	
12	CHECK BOX	IF THE	AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN	SHARES:	
13	PERCENT OF	CLASS	REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11): 9.6%		
14	TYPE OF RE			со	

3

_____ _____ CUSIP No. 697933-10-9 13D _____ _____ _____ Hughes Communications Galaxy, In 1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY): 95-3456497 _____ 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP: _____ 3 SEC USE ONLY _____ N/A 4 SOURCE OF FUNDS: _____ 5 CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OF _____ _____ _____

6 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION:

California

NUMBER OF SHARES	7	SOLE VOTING POWER:	0
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	8	SHARED VOTING POWER:	88,605,390
EACH REPORTING	9	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER:	0
PERSON WITH	10	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER:	88,605,390
11 AGGREGATE	E AMOUNT	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON: 88,	605,390
12 СНЕСК ВОХ	K IF THE	AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN	SHARES:
13 PERCENT C	OF CLASS	REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11): 59.0%	
14 TYPE OF F	REPORTING	G PERSON:	со

_____ _____ 13D CUSIP No. 697933-10-9 _____ _____ _____ 1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: Hughes Communications Satellite I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY): 95-3881942 _____ ------CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP: 2 _____ SEC USE ONLY 3 _____ SOURCE OF FUNDS: 4 N/A _____ 5 CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OF _____ _____ ____ 6 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION: California _____ 7 SOLE VOTING POWER: NUMBER OF 0 SHARES _____ ____ BENEFICIALLY 8 SHARED VOTING POWER: 17,729,545 OWNED BY -----____ _____ EACH 9 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER: 0

4

REPORTING				
PERSON WITH	H	10	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER:	17,729,545
 11	AGGREGATE	AMOUNT	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON: 17,7	729,545
12	CHECK BOX	IF THE	AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN	SHARES:
 13	PERCENT OF	' CLASS	REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11): 11.8%	
14	TYPE OF RE	PORTING	G PERSON:	СО

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This Amendment No. 8 amends the Schedule 13D dated May 27, 1997, as amended in certain respects by Amendments Nos. 1 through 7 thereto, and is filed by The DIRECTV Group, Inc., formerly known as Hughes Electronics Corporation ("The DIRECTV Group"), Hughes Communications, Inc. ("HCI"), Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc. ("HCG") and Hughes Communications Satellite Services, Inc. ("HCSS", and, collectively with The DIRECTV Group, HCI and HCG, the "Reporting Persons") with respect to the shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Common Stock"), of PanAmSat Corporation (the "Company").

As previously disclosed on Schedule 13D, HCG and HCSS are wholly-owned subsidiaries of HCI. HCI is wholly-owned subsidiary of Hughes Telecommunications & Space Company ("HTS"), and HTS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The DIRECTV Group.

The responses to Item 2 (Identity and Background), Item 4 (Purpose of Transaction), Item 5 (Interest in Securities of the Issuer), Item 6 (Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings or Relationships with respect to Securities of the Issuer) and Item 7 (Material to be filed as Exhibits) are hereby amended as follows:

Item 2. Identity and Background.

This statement is being filed jointly by The DIRECTV Group, HCI, HCG and HCSS. The DIRECTV Group is a Delaware corporation, and each of HCI, HCG and HCSS is a California corporation. The address of each of The DIRECTV Group's, HCI's, HCG's and HCSS' principal office is 2250 E. Imperial Highway, El Segundo, California 90245. The names, business addresses, principal businesses and citizenship of each of the directors and executive officers of each of The DIRECTV Group, HCI, HCG and HCSS are set forth on Schedule I hereto and incorporated by reference herein. The principal businesses of The DIRECTV Group are providing digital television entertainment, broadband satellite networks and video and data broadcasting.

During the last five years, none of the Reporting Persons nor, to the best of their knowledge, any of the executive officers or directors of any of the Reporting Persons, has been (i) convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations or similar misdemeanors) or (ii) a party to a

civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction and, as a result of such proceeding, was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining such future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

Item 4. Purpose of Transaction.

Transaction Agreement

On April 20, 2004, The DIRECTV Group and its wholly owned subsidiary, PAS Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("PAS Merger Sub"), entered into a Transaction Agreement (the "Transaction Agreement") with the Company and Constellation, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Constellation") which is an entity affiliated with Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co.

After receipt of all required regulatory approvals, stockholder approval and satisfaction of other closing conditions set forth in the Transaction Agreement, PAS Merger Sub will merge with and into the Company (the

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"Merger") and each outstanding share of Common Stock of the Company (other than the Common Stock held by the Reporting Persons, certain other capital stock that is owned by certain employees of the Company who agreed not to receive cash in the Merger, and the Common Stock held by those stockholders who have validly exercised appraisal rights) will be converted in the Merger into the right to receive \$23.50 in cash per share (the "Merger Price"). After consummation of the Merger, the Company will be a wholly-owned subsidiary of The DIRECTV Group except for the shares of Common Stock held by certain employees who have agreed not to have their shares cashed out in the Merger.

Subject to the satisfaction of certain closing conditions set forth in the Transaction Agreement, two business days after the effective time of the Merger, a portion of the Reporting Persons' shares of Common Stock will be repurchased by the Company and the remaining portion will be purchased by Constellation in each case for the Merger Price in cash, less any amounts withheld in accordance with the Transaction Agreement.

After the consummation of all of the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Agreement, Constellation will own the entire equity interest in the Company other than the equity interests held by certain employees of the Company who have agreed not to have their shares of Common Stock cashed out in the Merger.

Voting Agreement

As a condition and inducement to enter into the Transaction Agreement, the Reporting Persons entered into a Voting Agreement with Constellation (the "Voting Agreement") pursuant to which each Reporting Person agreed, at any time prior to the termination of the Transaction Agreement or the Voting Agreement, to (i) appear at any meeting of the stockholders, or cause the Common Stock held by the Reporting Persons to be counted as present at such meeting, for the purposes of establishing a quorum, (ii) vote in favor of the approval and adoption of the Merger, (iii) vote against any proposal for any recapitalization, reorganization, liquidation, merger, sale of assets or other business combination between the Company and any other person (other than the Merger) and (iv) vote against any other action that could reasonably be expected

to adversely affect the Merger or the transactions contemplated by the Transaction Agreement. Each Reporting Person also granted to Constellation an irrevocable proxy coupled with an interest to vote the Common Stock held by the Reporting Persons in favor of the Merger.

In the event that the Transaction Agreement is terminated and a termination fee is payable to Constellation in accordance with the terms of the Transaction Agreement, each Reporting Person is obligated to pay Constellation 50% of any profits (as defined in the Voting Agreement) realized by the Reporting Person from the sale or other disposition of the shares of Common Stock held by the Reporting Person (i) pursuant to a Competing Transaction (as defined in the Transaction Agreement) so long as the agreement with respect to such competing transaction is entered into or consummated within 12 months after termination, (ii) which is not pursuant to a bona fide public offering of shares of Common Stock and such sale or disposition is made at such time as a competing transaction is pending or (iii) pursuant to a superior proposal (as defined in the Transaction Agreement) so long as the agreement with respect to the superior proposal is entered into or consummated within 12 months of termination.

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The foregoing summaries of the Transaction Agreement and Voting Agreement do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by references to the complete text of such agreements attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2, respectively.

Item 5: Interest in Securities of the Issuer.

(a) The responses of the Reporting Persons to Rows (11) through (13) of the cover pages of this Amendment No. 8 are incorporated herein by reference. As of April 20, 2004, the Reporting Persons beneficially owned the number of shares of Common Stock listed below, representing approximately the percentage of the outstanding shares of Common Stock set forth opposite such number (based on 150,192,418 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of March 4, 2004).

Person	Number of Shares	
The DIRECTV Group, Inc.	120,812,175	
Hughes Communications, Inc.	14,477,240	
Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc.	88,605,390	
Hughes Communications Satellite Services, Inc.	17,729,545	

(b) The responses of the Reporting Persons to (i) Rows (7) through (10) of the cover pages of this Amendment No. 8 and (ii) Item 5(a) hereof are incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Not Applicable.

(d) Except as stated in this Item 5, to the best of the knowledge of

the Reporting Persons, no other person has the right to receive dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the shares of Common Stock owned by the Reporting Persons.

- (e) Not Applicable.
- Item 6. Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings or Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer.

The information set forth in Item 4 hereto is incorporated herein by reference.

- Item 7. Material to be Filed as Exhibits.
- Exhibit 1 Transaction Agreement, dated as of April 20, 2004, by and among The DIRECTV Group, Inc., PAS Merger Sub, Inc., PanAmSat Corporation and Constellation, LLC.

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- Exhibit 2 Voting Agreement, dated as of April 20, 2004, by and among Constellation, LLC, The DIRECTV Group, Inc., Hughes Communications, Inc., Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc. and Hughes Communications Satellite Services, Inc.
- Exhibit 3 Joint Filing Agreement, dated as of April 22, 2004, by and among The DIRECTV Group, Inc., Hughes Communications, Inc., Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc. and Hughes Communications Satellite Services, Inc.

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

THE DIRECTV GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Larry D. Hunter

Name: Larry D. Hunter Title: Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS, INC. By: /s/ Larry D. Hunter _____ Name: Larry D. Hunter Title: Senior Vice President and General Counsel HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS GALAXY, INC. By: /s/ Larry D. Hunter _____ Name: Larry D. Hunter Title: Senior Vice President and General Counsel HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE SERVICES, INC. By: /s/ Larry D. Hunter _____ Name: Larry D. Hunter Title: Senior Vice President and General Counsel

Date: April 22, 2004

The News Corporation Limited

1211 Avenue of Americas,

8th Fl.

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Schedule I to Amendment No. 8 to Schedule 13D

DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE DIRECTV GROUP, INC.

The name, business address, present principal occupation or employment, and the name, principal business and address of any corporation or other organization in which such employment is conducted, of each of the directors and executive officers of The DIRECTV Group, Inc. ("The DIRECTV Group") is set forth below. Unless otherwise specified, the business address of each person listed below is 2250 E. Imperial Highway, El Segundo, CA 90245. To the knowledge of the Reporting Persons, each person listed below is a citizen of the United States.

Name and Business Address	Position with The DIRECTV Group
K. Rupert Murdoch	Director and Chairman

Chairman Corporat

Principa If Other An Execu The DIRE

New York, NY 10036

Neil R. Austrian	Director	Private
Ralph F. Boyd, Jr. Federal Home Loan Mortgage Company 8200 Jones Branch Drive MS 431 McLean, VA 22102	Director	Executiv Counsel, Company
Chase Carey	Director, President and Chief Executi Officer	lve
Peter Chernin The News Corporation Limited 1211 Avenue of Americas, 8th Fl. New York, NY 10036	Director	Presiden The News
James M. Cornelius Guidant Corporation 111 Monument Circle Indianapolis, IN 46204	Director	Chairman
David F. DeVoe The News Corporation Limited 1211 Avenue of Americas, 8th Fl. New York, NY 10036	Director	Chief Fi Corporat
	11	
Name and Business Address	Position with The DIRECTV Group	Principa If Other An Execu The DIRE
Eddy W. Hartenstein	Director and Vice Chairman	
Charles R. Lee Verizon Communications 375 Park Avenue, Suite 2405 New York, NY 10152	Director	Chairman
Peter A. Lund 888 7th Avenue, 13th Floor New York, NY 10106	Director	Chairman
John L. Thornton 375 Park Avenue, Suite 1002 New York, NY 10152	Director	Consulta

Bruce Churchill HEC Services Company 1211 Avenue of Americas 8th Floor New York, NY 10036

Romulo Pontual

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer

Larry D. Hunter

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

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DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS GALAXY, INC.

The name, business address, present principal occupation or employment, and the name, principal business and address of any corporation or other organization in which such employment is conducted, of each of the directors and executive officers of Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc. ("HCG") is set forth below. Unless otherwise specified, the business address of each person listed below is 2250 E. Imperial Highway, El Segundo, CA 90245. To the knowledge of the Reporting Persons, each person listed below is a citizen of the United States.

Name and Business Address	Position with HCG	Principal Occupati If Other Than As An Executive Offic
Chase Carey	Director and President	President and Chie DIRECTV Group
Eddy W. Hartenstein	Vice Chairman	Vice Chairman of T
Patrick T. Doyle	Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Controller	Senior Vice Presid Controller of The
Larry D. Hunter	Senior Vice President and General Counsel	Executive Vice Pre and Secretary of T
Janet Williamson	Secretary	Assistant Corporat Group

DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

The name, business address, present principal occupation or employment, and the name, principal business and address of any corporation or other organization in which such employment is conducted, of each of the directors and executive officers of Hughes Communications, Inc. ("HCI") is set forth below. Unless otherwise specified, the business address of each person listed below is 2250 E. Imperial Highway, El Segundo, CA 90245. To the knowledge of the Reporting Persons, each person listed below is a citizen of the United States.

Name and Business Address	Position with HCI	Principal Occupat If Other Than As An Executive Offi
Chase Carey	Director and President	President and Chi DIRECTV Group
Eddy W. Hartenstein	Vice Chairman	Vice Chairman of
Patrick T. Doyle	Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Controller	Senior Vice Presi Controller of The
Larry D. Hunter	Senior Vice President and General Counsel	Executive Vice Pr and Secretary of
Janet Williamson	Secretary	Assistant Corpora Group

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DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE SERVICES, INC.

The name, business address, present principal occupation or employment, and the name, principal business and address of any corporation or other organization in which such employment is conducted, of each of the directors and executive officers of Hughes Communications Satellite Services, Inc. ("HCSS") is set forth below. Unless otherwise specified, the business address of each person listed below is 2250 E. Imperial Highway, El Segundo, CA 90245. To the knowledge of the Reporting Persons, each person listed below is a citizen of the United States.

Name and Business Address Position with HCSS

Principal Occu If Other Than An Executive C

Chase Carey	Director and President	President and The DIRECTV Gr
Eddy W. Hartenstein	Vice Chairman	Vice Chairman
Patrick T. Doyle	Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Controller	Senior Vice Pr Controller of
Larry D. Hunter	Senior Vice President and General Counsel	Executive Vice and Secretary
Janet Williamson	Secretary	Assistant Corp DIRECTV Group

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EXHIBIT INDEX

- Exhibit 1 Transaction Agreement, dated as of April 20, 2004, by and among The DIRECTV Group, Inc., PAS Merger Sub, Inc., PanAmSat Corporation and Constellation, LLC.
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- Exhibit 3 Joint Filing Agreement, dated as of April 22, 2004, by and among The DIRECTV Group, Inc., Hughes Communications, Inc., Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc. and Hughes Communications Satellite Services, Inc.