

MEC



MAGNA ENTERTAINMENT CORP.'S HORSERACING TV™ JOINS DISH NETWORK LINEUP

Total HRTV Distribution Exceeds 11 Million Homes

AURORA, Ont. & ENGLEWOOD, Colo., - July 13, 2004 – Magna Entertainment Corp. ("MEC") (NASDAQ: MECA; TSX: MEC.A) today announced that its HorseRacing TV™ television network ("HRTV") has reached a carriage agreement with EchoStar Communications Corporation (NASDAQ: DISH) that immediately and dramatically expands HRTV's distribution throughout the United States.

Starting Thursday, July 15, HRTV will be available to DISH Network's 10 million subscribers nationwide and included in DISH Network's "America's Top 60" and above programming packages, DISH Latino DOS and DISH Latino MAX at no extra charge. In total, HRTV will be distributed to more than 11 million cable and satellite TV subscribers.

"HorseRacing TV™ was created to ensure the widespread television exposure that is critical to the rebirth of horse racing as a major sports and entertainment activity," said Jim McAlpine, president and CEO of MEC. "We are absolutely thrilled to have achieved this distribution milestone, and we look forward to developing a successful relationship with DISH Network and our affiliated racetracks."

HRTV features television coverage of 13 racetracks owned, operated or managed by MEC. The network also has access to live coverage from more than 60 other racetracks in North America. Wagering, where not expressly prohibited by law, is conducted via the phone or Internet through XpressBet™ (www.xpressbet.com), MEC's national account wagering system.

"HRTV complements DISH Network's powerful line up of sports programming," said Eric Sahl, vice president of programming for DISH Network.

"We look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with DISH Network that builds national brand recognition for HRTV and the racing industry while providing DISH Network and its

subscribers with valuable, daily, live, sports programming from many of America's premier racetracks," said Bill Bridgen, president of HRTV.

MEC's North American racetracks owned, operated or managed by MEC include some of the most prestigious names in horse racing, including Santa Anita Park, Golden Gate Fields and Bay Meadows Racecourse in California, Gulfstream Park in Florida, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie in Texas, Pimlico Race Course (home of The Preakness®) and Laurel Park in Maryland, The Meadows in Pennsylvania, Remington Park in Oklahoma, Thistledown in Ohio, Great Lakes Downs in Michigan, Portland Meadows in Oregon and Colonial Downs in Virginia.

About EchoStar Communications Corporation

EchoStar Communications Corporation (NASDAQ: DISH) serves 10 million satellite TV customers through its DISH Network™, and is a leading U.S. provider of advanced digital television services. DISH Network's services include hundreds of video and audio channels, Interactive TV, HDTV, sports and international programming, together with professional installation and 24-hour customer service. DISH Network is the leader in the sale of digital video recorders (DVRs). Visit EchoStar's DISH Network at www.DISHnetwork.com or call 1-800-333-DISH (3474).

About HRTV

HRTV is a 24-hour television network providing up to 15 hours per day of wire-to-wire coverage of live horse racing action from more than 70 thoroughbred, harness and quarter horse racetracks in the United States, Canada and Australia. The network offers guaranteed per-subscriber carriage fees to operators in select states.

About MEC

MEC, North America's number one owner and operator of horse racetracks, based on revenue, acquires, develops and operates horse racetracks and related pari-mutuel wagering operations, including off-track betting facilities. Additionally, MEC owns and operates XpressBet™, a national Internet and telephone account wagering system, and HorseRacing TV™, a 24-hour horse racing television network.

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