



## BARRETT XPORE ACQUIRES ADDITIONAL Ka-BAND CAPACITY FROM HUGHES

***SPACEWAY 3, world's first switch-in-the-sky to provide broadband connectivity across Canada***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WOODSTOCK, N.B.** – Barrett Xplore Inc. (BXI), through its Xplornet brand, is pleased to announce that Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES) will provide additional Ka-band satellite capacity and services to enable rural broadband services in Canada on Hughes' new SPACEWAY™ 3 satellite.

The largest satellite serving the North American market, SPACEWAY 3 was launched last year and is the world's first "switch in the sky" commercial satellite enabling dish-to-dish connectivity. The agreement with Hughes provides Xplornet with satellite capacity on SPACEWAY 3, a gateway earth station, and remote terminals. These new capabilities allow Xplornet to expand the broadband applications and services it offers to customers.

"Xplornet is investing in technology to further our mandate to provide urban-quality broadband to homes and businesses in rural Canada," said John Maduri, CEO of Barrett Xplore. "The addition of the Hughes technology allows us to expand capacity in Canada to help bridge the rural-urban digital divide."

"By using the new capabilities provided by the SPACEWAY 3 platform, Barrett Xplore can better serve their markets across Canada," said Mike Cook, senior vice president at Hughes. "In addition to enabling higher speed services, SPACEWAY 3 also offers end-to-end Class of Service (CoS) capabilities to better prioritize business applications for the best performance possible."

Xplornet will work quickly to develop specific packages that offer the greatest value to rural Canadian business owners and residential customers. Full service will be available by mid-2008. "There's no question that with the additional capacity from Hughes, Xplornet can bring broadband applications to areas of rural Canada where it has never been possible before," said Maduri.

**Barrett Xplore** – through its Xplornet brand ([www.xplornet.com](http://www.xplornet.com)) – is Canada's largest and fastest growing wireless broadband service provider, with customers and dealers in every province and territory. BXI's mission is to bridge the urban/rural digital divide, ensuring that every rural Canadian has access to fast, affordable and reliable broadband services, regardless of where they live, work, or play. BXI has worked with Motorola to complete in excess of 200 wireless broadband deployments across rural Canada, reaching 300 rural communities and covering 350,000 homes and businesses. In addition to its extensive wireless broadband coverage, it has also partnered with Telesat Canada to deliver high-speed Internet access using satellite technology everywhere in Canada.



**Hughes** ([www.hughes.com](http://www.hughes.com)) is the global leader in providing broadband satellite networks and services for large enterprises, governments, small businesses, and consumers. HughesNet® encompasses all broadband solutions and managed services from Hughes, bridging the best of satellite and terrestrial technologies. Its broadband satellite products are based on global standards approved by the TIA, ETSI and ITU standards organizations, including IPoS, RSM-A and GMR-1. To date, Hughes has shipped more than 1.5 million systems to customers in over 100 countries.

Headquartered outside Washington, D.C., in Germantown, Maryland, USA, Hughes maintains sales and support offices worldwide. Hughes is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hughes Communications, Inc. (NASDAQ: HUGH). For additional information, please visit [www.hughes.com](http://www.hughes.com).

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To schedule an interview with John Maduri, or for more information on rural broadband, contact:

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