

I oppose the merger of Dish Network and Direct TV for the following reasons:

-Competition will be eliminated. The original granting of 2 providers of service was to ensure that a monopoly would not exist. If the merger is allowed, prices will go up, services will deteriorate, excellence in delivery of this medium will disappear.

How do I know? Look at any local CATV system. They have local protected monopolies. Monopolies do not provide good, efficient, or economical service-there is no incentive to.

-The Dish Network converter boxes are very poor in performance. Direct TV has several manufacturers with many options available in their converter boxes. My personal experience has been that the Direct TV units operate in a far superior manner. If Dish Network is allowed to take over, there will be no incentive for them to integrate the superior converters into their system, but rather "highlight" their own converters.

-This merger would tend to threaten the Sky Angel Network, which will be the only remaining independent service.