

evidence developed during the hearing makes clear that the subject matter of the dispute is the scope of the 2006 Settlement Agreement -- and agreement settling a prior program carriage complaint filed by MASN."

Virgin Media is selling \$600 million of bonds and will use the money to prepay some credit lines, the U.K. cable operator said late Thursday. The senior notes due in 2016 carry 9.5 percent annual interest.

A federal judge dismissed insider trading charges against HDNet Chairman Mark Cuban but gave the SEC another 30 days to amend its complaint and file again. The SEC alleged that Cuban dodged \$750,000 in losses on his investment in Mamma.com because he sold his shares based on confidential information that the company would soon make a move that would dilute shareholders' value (CD Nov 20 p13). "Cuban cannot be held liable under the misappropriation theory of insider trading liability, even accepting all well-pleaded facts as true and viewing them in the light most favorable to the SEC," Judge Sidney Fitzwater wrote. If the SEC can show in 30 days that Cuban "undertook a duty, expressly or implicitly, not to trade on or otherwise use material, non public information" about the event that triggered the charges, then the case can proceed, the judge wrote. Otherwise it will be dismissed with prejudice.

Comcast's new iPhone application lets subscribers manage their Comcast home phone voice mail and Comcast.net e-mail accounts remotely and allows call forwarding from a Comcast home phone, the company said. "It's another example of an awful lot of what you hear as justification of cable operating a wireless network that can be much more directly addressed through open wireless applications like the Comcast iPhone app," Sanford Bernstein analyst Craig Moffett said in an interview. "The iPhone app is nice, but it's reasonable to assume they would just build an open Web interface to do the same thing and then it's accessible through any Web-enabled wireless device." Comcast's goal is to make the application available across as many devices as possible, a spokesman said. -- *JW*

Mass Media Notes

General Electric wrote off NBC Universal's remaining stake in Ion, said Keith Sherin, GE's chief financial officer. NBC Universal's Q2 sales fell 8 percent from a year earlier to \$3.56 billion, parent GE said. The unit's profit fell 41 percent to \$539 million on slack ad sales and the write-down.

Grupo Televisa's Q2 sales gained 10 percent from a year earlier to \$949.8 million on growth in its cable system and cable programming segments. The company's profit of \$136.9 million was roughly flat. Results were in line with forecasts, Noble Financial analyst Michael Kupinski wrote. He said he's surprised that Televisa maintained its guidance for the rest of the year despite a worsening Mexican economy.

New Technologies

The Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions expanded its IPTV interoperability forum to include standardized delivery of Internet-sourced content over a managed network, it said. The group's work had focused solely on TV services delivered over a network operator's private network infrastructure. "Increasingly, content owners are turning to the Internet to bring archival and niche content to viewers," said Dan O'Callaghan, IIF's chairman and principal member of technical staff for Verizon.

Satellite

A former Boeing engineer was convicted Friday of economic espionage and acting as an agent of China, for which he stole restricted technology and Boeing trade secrets including information related to the Space Shuttle pro-