



Press release

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A new 10-year contract strengthens Autogrill's position in Canada, where the group is already present in Vancouver, Montreal and Calgary

Autogrill with HMSHost wins catering and retail business at Halifax airport

Milan, 28th May 2001 - Via its US subsidiary HMSHost, the Autogrill Group, world leader in catering services for travelers, has won a new contract for development and management of catering and retail business at the international airport of Halifax in Canada. The contract lasts 10 years for the food and beverage business – which should develop turnover of some USD 45 million in that period – and 5 years for the retail business, with estimated sales of USD 10 million.

Winning the bid for Halifax airport confirms Autogrill's strategy of serving not only large airports (the group is global leader in the segment and present in 15 of the world's 20 largest airports), but also those of medium size, with formats and brands tailor-made for every location.

At Halifax airport, Autogrill's food court will feature a Burger King, a highly successful local brand (Brisket Boardwalk Deli), a Legends of Nova Scotia pub, and a concept specially developed for the airport called "The Maritime Ale House".

The brands in the retail area will be Simply Books (books and press publications) and Roots Clothing (clothing and sports articles).

"Operations are scheduled to start in the first few months of 2002" – stated John J. McCarthy, HMSHost's President and CEO. "Halifax is the third contract won by HMSHost in 2001, after those for Cincinnati airport and for the Garden State Parkway, a major highway section in New Jersey".

HMSHost is market leader in the creation and management of services for travelers in concession spaces, with annual turnover of USD 1.6 billion. It is fully owned by the Italian group **Autogrill**, which ended 2000 with consolidated sales of € 3,041 million and enjoyed sales growth of +13.1% in the first quarter of 2001.