



Press release

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Autogrill renews two major concessions through HMSHost: revenue projection of more than 400 million dollars

Autogrill expands in the USA: restaurant and retail services on Florida's Turnpike until 2009 and at the NASA until 2011

Milan, 20th December 2001 - HMSHost, the Autogrill Group's US subsidiary, has been granted an early renewal of its main concession, which was due to expire in 2003. Its contract with the Florida's Turnpike for management of all highway locations has been extended for 5 years, with overall annual revenues totalling more than 50 million dollars. Projected turnover for the full term of the agreement will therefore be approximately 350 million dollars. The highway concerned, one of the three most important in the United States, is a 250-mile stretch from Orlando to Miami and South Florida, which is used by about 200 million people every year.

For HMSHost, which has been operating on the Florida's Turnpike since the 1980s, the renewal is a major confirmation of its offer, which today includes such high-profile brands as Burger King, Sbarro, Starbucks, Miami Subs and Cinnabon.

HMSHost has also obtained a 10-year renewal for its retail contract at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, a highly profitable strategic location.

The renewal of the NASA concession is expected to bring Autogrill revenues totalling approximately 51 million dollars over the term of the agreement.

The Autogrill Group's Chief Executive Officer, Livio Buttignol, expressed the group's satisfaction with the renewals: "After the events of 11 September, we have gradually recovered our sales volumes and have taken decisive action to improve our offer and boost efficiency. The contract with the Florida's Turnpike is an important example of our ability to take advantage of market conditions by developing projects designed to enhance satisfaction of consumer expectations and thus win longer-term contracts at advantageous conditions from concession-owners."

The Autogrill Group

Autogrill is the world's leading provider of restaurant services for people on the move. The parent company is controlled by Edizione Holding, the Benetton family's financial holding, which owns 57.09% of equity. Autogrill operates in 16 countries over four continents: North America and Europe (which account for the majority of its business), Australia and Asia. In 2000, it reported revenues of 3.041 billion euros. The Group operates through five main channels: restaurants on motorways and in airports, rail stations and shopping malls and quick-service city restaurants.