



Press release

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**Concept combines Food & Beverages with Internet access and an online travel agency**

## **With Expedia.com Café, HMSHost wins the Grand Prize 2002 for design**

Milan, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2002 - HMSHost, Autogrill's US subsidiary, has won the Grand Prize 2002 for retail outlet design awarded by the National Association of Shop Furnishings Manufacturers (NASFM).

Expedia.com Café is a new concept designed specifically for airports and the needs of people on the move. The café's tables are fitted with telephone jacks, electrical sockets and facilities for access to the Internet without additional costs. "We are deeply honored to win this award," said HMSHost Chief Executive Officer John J. McCarthy. "Expedia.com Café is the result of teamwork. The credit goes to the HMSHost workgroup that developed the project, but also to Expedia.com for the brand, the business idea and creativity, to San José airport for the quality of its restaurant services mix, and to all the companies involved in the design and construction of the outlet."

Expedia.com Café is the result of a partnership between two groups that are leaders in their respective businesses: HMSHost and Expedia Incorporated, a top US travel agency and world leader in online services.

Together they have created a concept whose strengths are a relaxing atmosphere, an excellent selection of food & beverages, and an unlimited range of opportunities to surf the net in the search for a perfect travel solution.

The menu offers a broad choice of items, from a full meal to a quick snack, together with a wide selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

The average spend is 50% higher than that in a conventional café. Market research shows that 93% of the clientele are business travelers, and 60% have an hour or more to pass in the airport. 20% of customers frequent Expedia.com Café precisely because it offers Internet access, and 90% of customers coming in for the first time said they would return.