



Press release

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## **Autogrill Group active in over 100 airports in North America HMSHost gains two new airports in the USA: Albany (New York State) and Knoxville (Tennessee)**

Milan, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2008 – HMSHost, the North American division of Autogrill (Milan: AGL IM), secured a contract to operate food & beverage services in ten points of sale in two new airports in the United States: Albany, capital of New York State, and Knoxville in Tennessee. The two operations are expected to generate accumulated sales of over \$80m in the overall duration of the contracts.

The six points of sale at **Albany International Airport (ALB)** will feature both local and international brands. Together with Starbucks Coffee, Dunkin' Donuts and Brioche Dorée, there will be restaurants themed to New York State, such as Adirondack Lodge, Silks Saragota Bistro, and Hudson Valley Wine Bar featuring a generous selection of regional wines. Business is set to start up in spring 2009 and expected to generate accumulated sales of around \$60m over the period 2009-2018, which is renewable for another ten years. This new start-up further strengthens HMSHost's presence in New York State, where it operates over 40 points of sale at JFK, La Guardia (LGA) and Long Island, MacArthur (ISP) airports. At 90 minutes from New York City and with around three million passengers a year (source: ACI), Albany International is the main airport for the bordering States of Massachusetts and Vermont.

The four f&b points of sale at **McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS)** in Knoxville, Tennessee, will open in spring 2009 in the post-security foodcourt area, with national and international brands like Starbucks Coffee, Cinnabon, Quiznos Sub and ZIA. The new contract is expected to generate accumulated sales of over \$20m in the period 2009-2014, with an option on renewal for another five years. McGhee Tyson is the main airport (around two million passengers, source: ACI) in the Knoxville metropolitan area, the third largest city in Tennessee after Memphis and Nashville.

Active in more than 100 airports in the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia-Pacific, HMSHost operates in North America's top 20 busiest airports. In the first nine months of 2008, the company posted airport sales of \$1,582.1m, up 7.9% on \$1,466.1m in the same period in 2007, despite a 3.3% contraction in air traffic (source: A.T.A.).

For further information:

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