



Press release

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**Positive preliminary estimates on performance in the year to 31 December.
Impressive response of the US subsidiary HMSHost to external difficulties**

Autogrill boosts sales revenues in 2001. Improvements in Europe and excellent business stability in the USA despite traffic slowdown

Milan, 25th January 2002 - According to preliminary estimates on performance for the year to 31 December, the Autogrill Group's consolidated sales revenues for 2001 were 3,258 million euros, up 7.1% from the year-earlier figure (about 5% net of the exchange rate effect).

Performance reflected the results of operations in the main European countries: in Italy, sales revenues totalled 988 million euros (5,5% from the previous year), while France reported 176 million euros (up 9.1%).

Revenues from operations on US highways conducted through the subsidiary HMSHost improved by 6%. In airports, the revenue slowdown was significantly smaller than the 8% decline reported in traffic, at not more than 2% (all figures are stated on a like-for-like basis).

In the last month, the company reported the same sales revenue figure in US airports as in the previous year, despite the 10-15% slowdown in traffic.

Commenting on results, Autogrill Chief Executive Officer Livio Buttignol said: "These preliminary figures confirm the strength of the Group, which has mobilised successfully to respond to the unforeseeable and severe difficulties in the United States as a result of the tragic events of 11 September."