



Press release

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Re – organization on food & beverage services at Fiumicino and Ciampino airports in Rome

Autogrill acquires 55% of Cisim Food (Cirio Group)

Milan, 17th May 2002 - Autogrill S.p.A. and the Panificio Moderno company of the Cirio-Del Monte Group have reached an agreement for Autogrill to acquire a 55% shareholding in Cisim Food, the company that provides food & beverage services in the Rome airports of Ciampino and Fiumicino under a concession granted by Aeroporti di Roma (AdR). Cisim Food reported net sales of approximately 25 million euro in 2001 (27 million euro in 2000).

The agreement is the first step in the two Groups' plans to strengthen their business ties.

The value of the Autogrill investment has been determined on the basis of an assessment valuing the company's capital, including liabilities, at 13.8 million euro.

The acquisition is part of a broader project – which also leverages Autogrill's expertise as an operator in US airports – to develop a range of food & beverage services and brands that puts Fiumicino at the forefront of European airports.

The companies are required to notify the Antitrust Authority of the agreement, which is subject to the approval of AdR.

The remaining 45% of Cisim Food is owned by Banca di Roma.

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 15 countries over four continents: North America and Europe (which account for the majority of its business), Australia and Asia. In 2001, it reported net sales of 3.266 billion euros. The Group operates through five main channels: restaurants on motorways and in airports, rail stations, shopping malls and city centers.

Cirio Group.

The Cirio group is headed by Cirio Finanziaria S.p.A., a company indirectly controlled by the Cragnotti family. It is active in food & beverages through Cirio-Del Monte, which accounts for approximately 70% of aggregate net sales, detergents through Bombril SA (Brazil), and entertainment through SS Lazio S.p.A. In 2001, it reported consolidated net sales of 1,232 million euro. The sale of Cisim Food is part of the group's program to dispose of non-core operations and strengthen its focus on the food business.