The two contracts are for ten years (Tulsa) and 15 (Islip) respectively and Autogrill expects the contracts to generate revenues of some $136 million.

The American subsidiary Anton Airfood is awarded new contracts in the Tulsa and Islip-Long Island airports: strengthening Autogrill’s presence in medium sized US airports

Milan, 30th September 2003 - Anton Airfood, a company active in restaurant services for medium sized airports which is 95% controlled by Autogrill as of 1H 2003, has signed two important concession contracts for the Tulsa (Oklahoma) and Islip, Long Island airports.

The first contract is connected to the new terminal that is part of an expansion project at the Tulsa International Airport, an airport that each year accommodates 4 million passengers. The contract is for ten years and the revenues for Autogrill in this period are expected to exceed $60 million. Anton Airfood, based on this agreement, will begin supplying restaurant services in existing spaces as of January 1st 2004 and will expand in subsequent months as new spaces are completed to reach a total of nine restaurants. The restaurants will feature formal dining with table service, more casual formulas as well as quick service spots with a portfolio of brands including well know national and local brands created specifically for the Tulsa airport.

The MacArthur Airport of Islip, Long Island accommodates 1.3 million passengers each year. Anton Airfood signed a 15 year contract for restaurant services that features the opening of 7 restaurants and are expected to generate revenues of some $76 million. This offering will also consist of a mixture of formulas with national, local and regional brands as well as stand alone solutions (a single restaurant in a clearly defined area) and a food court with wide open spaces (larger that those of city squares) and different restaurant concepts.

Autogrill in American airports
In 1H 2003 the revenues generated for Autogrill in North American airports equaled $598.3 million, as compared to 549.6 in 1H 2002 (+8.9%). On a comparable basis the growth equals 4% as compared to a decrease in traffic of 3.6%. The consolidation of Anton Airfood resulted in a contribution of $32.9 million.

Strong potential in medium sized airports
“Just a few months after the purchase of Anton Airfood we are proud to announce the award of these two new contracts that are testimony to the value of the company led by William and Patricia Anton – commented Gianmario Tondato, Autogrill’s CEO - “Medium to small sized airports represent an important frontier for our Group that traditionally has concentrated its activities in larger airports. The know how and excellence of Anton Airfood, as indicated by the recognition and prizes
awarded to the company each year, adds even more value to the partnership that each year our Group has consolidated in the primary American airports”.

Anton Airfood, a company that Autogrill purchased 95% of in 2003 by increasing a participation held as of 2001, is the third largest American operator in the airport restoration sector. Present in approximately a dozen American airports, primarily medium sized, (including, among others, Providence, Norfolk, Washington Reagan, Raleigh Durham) the company manages a total of more than one hundred restaurant concessions and a portfolio of regional, national and international brands that complement those run by HMSHost, another Autogrill Group subsidiary, purchased in 1999. The quality of its organization has allowed Anton Airfood to receive the prize “Best Airport Food and Beverage Operator” awarded by World Airport Retail News for four years in a row.