Autogrill signs 30-year extension of Maine Turnpike service area concession for $1bn sales

- The contract runs from 2007, covering 5 service areas, of which 1 new and 4 to be restructured
- The motorway channel in North America has 112 locations on 13 US and 2 Canadian highways

Milan, 2nd March 2006 - Through its American subsidiary HMSHost Corp., Autogrill Group (Milan: AGL IM) has signed an agreement with the Maine Turnpike Authority to extend its highway service area food & beverage concession for a further period of 30 years, from 2007 to 2037. The operation will generate accumulated sales of around $1 billion.

Under the agreement, HMSHost and the Maine Turnpike Authority will rebuild and upgrade the four existing higher density traffic service areas – Kennebunk North, Kennebunk South, Cumberland and Gray – and build a new location in the West Gardiner area, near the intersection of the Turnpike with Interstate 295.

The Maine Turnpike is a section of Interstate 95, the highest density north-south toll road along the east coast. Linking the major population centres in Maine, such as Augusta, Kennebunk and Portland, the Maine Turnpike stretches 109 miles, from Augusta to the border with New Hampshire. It carries over 75 million vehicles a year, a mixture of both commuter traffic and long haul travellers (summer and winter holidaymakers).

The HMSHost offering will therefore embrace a range of f&b concepts, from "fast food" to "fast casual", in order to satisfy the needs of a varied target, with brands including Burger King, Starbucks Coffee, Popeye's, Sbarro, Freshens Frozen Treats, Pizza Hut, KFC and the Travel Mart convenience store.

HMSHost operates on 13 of the United States’ 17 toll roads, with 94 service areas, plus the 18 areas it manages on the only two Canadian motorways that provide traveller services. In 2005, sales in the motorway channel accounted for 44.6% of Autogrill’s consolidated revenues and were generated with 642 locations, of which 530 in Europe and 112 in North America.