Autogrill : Alpha Airports and Emirates form a partnership in Australia

- Alpha has won a contract to provide in-flight catering on all the airline’s flights out of Australia.
- Emirates acquires a 49% stake in Alpha Flight Services Australia.

Milan, 19th September 2007 – Alpha Airports Group Plc, a UK subsidiary of Autogrill S.p.A. (AGL IM), has entered an agreement with Emirates, an airline company, to provide in-flight catering services for all Emirates flights out of Australia. The contract will run from 1st January 2008 for eight years, with an option on renewal.

Under the terms of the agreement, Emirates has acquired 49% of the stock of Alpha Flight Services Australia, an Alpha Airports Group company controlling in-flight catering services for 16 airlines operating out of the nine main airports in Australia, providing over four million on-board meals a year.

The agreement also contemplates the possibility of Alpha and Emirates exploring new opportunities in partnership in Australia and elsewhere.

The operation strengthens Alpha’s in-flight catering business and constitutes a partnership with one of the top five international airlines operating on the Australian market. In 2006 in this region alone, Emirates saw its passenger traffic grow by 18% on 2005 against an overall increase in the region of 2.9% over the same period (10.6 million outward passengers).

The agreement is subject to formal approval by the two parties and will be finalized in the next few days.

Alpha Airports e Autogrill
Acquired by Autogrill Group in 2007, Alpha Airports Group Plc is one of the top UK airport and in-flight catering and retail service providers, with over 200 points of sale in 17 countries across five continents.

Emirates
An international airline based in the United Arab Emirates, Emirates has a fleet of over 100 aircraft linking 93 destinations in 59 countries. In the financial year ending 31st March 2007, it posted record profits of US$942m, with revenues rising 28.8% to US$8.5 billion against US$6.6 billion the previous year.

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