

Press release

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## Autogrill secures new food&beverage contract in El Paso International Airport, Texas

- Expected sales of \$105 million over an 11 year contract
- 11 new f&b points of sale in 1,300 square metres
- Autogrill Group will now have operations in seven Texas airports

Milan, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2006 – Autogrill Group (Milan: AGL IM), through its US subsidiary HMSHost Corp., is to start new business in El Paso International Airport, in El Paso Texas, having won a contract to operate food&beverage locations in the Main Terminal, Concourses A and B.

Running from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007, the contract covers operations in 11 points of sale, which are expected to produce accumulated sales of around \$105m in 11 eleven years.

The new premises, covering nearly 1,300 square metres, will feature international brands like Starbucks Coffee, Quizno's Sub, Pizza Hut, Burger King and local concepts such as Carlos & Mickey's, a famous El Paso Mexican food label, El Paso Vineyards Wine Bar, El Taco Tote and El Paso Market. These new points of sale will open to the public in stages, between summer 2007 and the end of 2008.

The contract strengthens Autogrill Group's presence in Texas, where it already does business in six airports (Dallas – Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, Lubbock, Corpus Christi and Harlingen).

El Paso, second only to San Diego amongst US cities in the border zone with Mexico, is just across the way from its Mexican sister Ciudad Juàrez. Its international airport, going back to 1928, handles over 3.4 million passengers a year and over 190,000 aircraft, with non-stop links to 18 destinations and an average of over 166 flights a day. This makes it the preferred point of access to west Texas, southern New Mexico and northern Mexico.

Operating in over 90 airports, including 18 of North America's top 20, the Group posted sales of \$1,667.6m in the airport channel in the region in 2005. In the first nine months of 2006, the company posted revenues of \$1,236.7m in North American airports, up 5.8% on \$1,169m in the same period of 2005, despite a 1.4% contraction in air traffic (source: A.T.A.).

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