



Press release

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The biggest contract ever secured by the Group

Autogrill: 30-year \$3.5 billion motorway contract on the Pennsylvania Turnpike (USA)

- Concession renewal and new location contracts
- The contract will involve investments of over \$100 million
- In North America, Autogrill now has 112 travel plazas on 14 US and two Canadian motorways

Milan, 28th July 2006 – Autogrill Group (Milan: AGL IM), through its US subsidiary HMSHost Corp., has been awarded a contract to renew its concession and develop new travel food, beverage and retail plazas on the Pennsylvania Turnpike, the main motorway link between the East Coast and the United State's Mid West.

The contract provides exclusive rights to the entire motorway for the rebuilding and operation of the 15 plazas already served by HMSHost and the undertaking of three new locations. The 30-year concession, awarded after a competitive process involving all the major industry players, both American and European, will generate accumulated sales of over \$3.5 billion.

Under the new agreement, to run from July 2006, HMSHost plans to spend over \$100 million to upgrade locations to meet the needs of today's travellers, with new, larger buildings that incorporate Pennsylvania architecture and materials. The entire redevelopment project will unfold over a period of six years, with work being done off peak to reduce the impact on travellers' comfort and convenience. Full information can be found on the Turnpike's website (www.paturndpike.com).

Stretching 853 km (530 miles), the Pennsylvania Turnpike is used by more than 190 million vehicles a year and will be the first to feature top national and local restaurant brands. In addition to the many familiar brands already known to Pennsylvania Turnpike travellers (Starbucks, Burger King, Sbarro, Roy Rogers and Hershey's Ice Cream), new brands will include Chili's Too and Outback Outpost, Famous Famiglia, Chick-fil-A, Brioche Doree Café & Bakery, The Doggery, Philly Steak & Gyro, and Bassett's Original Turkey, and a total of 25 F&B and Retail brands.

The redevelopment will also feature food courts with natural, ambient lighting, full-service convenience stores and larger restrooms with increased lighting and touch-free technology. Other plaza improvements will include outdoor dining areas, landscaped grounds with pet walking paths, and state of the industry technology and security systems.

The Pennsylvania Turnpike was officially opened on 1st October 1940 but it was innovative compared to other motorways in that period. Right from the start, it doubled its traffic forecast by handling 2.4 million vehicles in 1941, less than a year after its opening. In addition to appreciably cutting travel time between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania Turnpike brought considerable growth to the areas along it. HMSHost has been operating on the Turnpike since 1956.



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Pennsylvania is one of the most densely populated States in America. With 12 million inhabitants it is the 6th after California, Texas, New York, Florida and Illinois, and as a percentage of the total population of the USA it has maintained a stable 4.4% share for the last ten years. The economy of the state is varied with a balance of industry and agriculture.

HMSHost operates 112 travel plazas on 14 of the USA's 17 motorway systems and is also present on both of the Canadian motorways that provide traveller services. In the 1st half of 2006 the North American motorway operations posted revenues of \$191 million, up 4.5% on \$182.7 million in same year-ago period. In 2005 North American motorway revenues amounted to \$443.7 million (up 4.9% on \$422.8 million in 2004), which is 10.1% of Group sales.

For further information:

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