



Press release

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At the Tirreno East service area on the A12 motorway near Civitavecchia, Autogrill presents the first facility for truck drivers: a 22,000 sq.m area with free shower facilities, satellite tv, lounge and a truck park with video surveillance

Autogrill presents Trucker Club, a facility for truckers traveling on Italian motorways. Special offers and services. After the trial period, the drivers will create the network themselves

Milan, 1st October 2003 - At the Tirreno East Autogrill, on the A12 motorway between Rome and Civitavecchia, Aldo Papa, General Manager Autogrill Italia, cuts the ribbon of the first Trucker Club. More than 180,000 haulage firms operate in Italy, with a total of 700,000 trucks traveling the 6,500 kilometers of the Italian motorway network every year, in addition to the tens of thousands of foreign trucks that cross into Italy annually. On average, truckers cover a daily total of almost 49 million kilometers on Italy's toll roads, with an average stopover of 19 minutes.

For professional drivers, the quality of motorway food & beverage services is an important element in their quality of life, as well as a key factor in road safety.

The locations. The Trucker Club provides free shower facilities, satellite television programs and a food & beverage area consisting of an Acafé snack-bar, a Spizzico, a lounge with comfortable seating for 100 and a market. A closed-circuit video surveillance system guarantees security in the truck park.

The Tirreno East Autogrill is located in a 22,000 square meter area built by Autostrade per l'Italia, with 95 parking places for automobiles and 40 for trucks, and a modern fuel station operated by Tamoil.

After the trial period, the Autogrill Trucker Club model will be introduced in other service areas, accompanied by special offers and services for truckers.

A new network mapped out together. Drivers themselves will tell Autogrill which are the most important stopover locations, so that Trucker Club services can be provided where they offer the greatest benefit. Hauliers can contact Autogrill on **freephone number (800.069.069)** and via the website **www.autogrill.it**.

New club openings will be announced in the press (an up-to-date list will be published at regular intervals in trade publications). Road signs and announcements on the website will also be provided.

"During 2004 we shall be making every effort to cater for the needs of this important customer segment," said Autogrill Italia General Manager Aldo Papa. "Different facilities will be available, of course, but hauliers are travel professionals just like us, and it is important that they have the



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opportunity to enjoy a pleasant stopover in order to continue their journey in the best possible frame of mind.”

The Autogrill initiative embraces the recommendations of **Aiscat, the Italian association of motorway and tunnel concession holders** and the Ministry for Infrastructures and Transport, which has just issued a report on road safety (“Road Safety Strategies of the **Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport**”); the report includes a complete chapter on stopovers, which are also required by law.

Investment outlay on the Tirreno East Autogrill totaled **2 million euros**. Facilities on the covered surface area of approximately 900 sq.m comprise an Acafé coffee bar, a Spizzico outlet, and a Market with a wide selection of regional specialties. About 12,000 vehicles are expected to pass the new location every day, with heavy traffic accounting for a large proportion.

The new outlet is located in an area where Autogrill already provides services for specific transport needs: it also has locations at Rome Fiumicino airport, Rome Termini railway station and the port of Civitavecchia, and travel plazas on the roads and motorways linking these terminals.

The Trucker Club is part of a series of initiatives being developed by Autogrill to meet the varied needs of people on the move: the new Acafé bar with the similarly named coffee blend for a great cup of espresso, the new Ischia vegetarian sandwich, the “Fido Park” facility for people traveling with their pets, gastronomic weekends during which Autogrill locations are used as showcases for local producers to present their specialties.