



Press release

Media Relations

Tel +39.02.4826.3250
Fax +39.02.4826.3614
ufficiostampa@autogrill.com
www.autogrill.com

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Autogrill awarded new retail contract at Houston Intercontinental Airport

Milan, 19th November 2003 - Autogrill, through its subsidiary HMSHost Corporation and joint venture partner Houston 8 Team LLC, awarded a seven-year contract to develop and operate seventeen new and specialty stores at Houston Intercontinental Airport.

The concepts are expected to generate more than US\$190 million in revenue over the life of the agreement.

With **more than 35 million passengers a year**, Houston Intercontinental Airport is the twentieth largest airport world-wide and the twelfth in the USA in terms of passenger traffic.

The contract is important from an industrial viewpoint: it will bring in additional annual revenues of more than 27 million dollars in the retail business, which flanks the Group's food & beverages business. **This will raise Autogrill's annual airport retail revenues from 181 to more than 200 million dollars.** "This confirms that our competitive strength also extends to the retail business, where we continue to grow," said Autogrill Chief Executive Officer Gianmario Tondato.

Construction of the new facilities will begin later this year. Key store concepts will include:

Fox news channel Newsstand. Fox News Channel has teamed up with HMSHost to develop the first "real-time" information source for airport travelers. This breakthrough concept will provide a total news experience for travelers, complete with direct feeds from FOX News Channel, broadband Internet connections, and Satellite News, a fully automated kiosk capable of printing more than 150 international and domestic newspapers.

Clyde Drexler's Sports Scene. Inspired by the career of NBA all-star Clyde Drexler, this Houston-centric sports store features a memorabilia display from the champion's personal collection. But Clyde's isn't only about basketball. The store will carry a large selection of logo apparel and collectibles saluting all of Houston's professional and college sports teams. The Rockets, Astros, Texans and the Aeros will all be represented as will the University of Houston, University of Texas, and Rice University.

Destination Houston. This innovative "store-in-store" concept features the best local and regional products reflective of a Houston experience. **Space Trader** brings the traveller dramatic memorabilia from NASA and Space Center Houston; **Gulf Coast Sunstyles** will evoke fond memories of local beach and sailing vacations with its assortment of "beach accessories;" and **Taste of Texas** adds a delicious sampling of the Texas finest sauces, spices, and cookbooks.

These three concepts will join **News Connection, Simply Books, Fossil, Pacific Sliver, Sporting Eyes,** and **Airport Wireless** to provide a rich variety of shopping experiences for Houston travelers.