



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DECEMBER 4, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Sheila McGee 240-694-4196
Sheila.McGee@HMSHost.com
Rana Florida 240-694-4403
Rana.Florida@HMSHost.com

**HMSHost Expansion Efforts Underway
with New Office in Singapore Spring 2007**

HMSHost Hires Managing Director in Asia

BETHESDA, MD – HMSHost Corporation, part of Autogrill Group S.p.A, one of the world's leading airport shopping and dining innovators, hires Suredj S. Autar as Managing Director of HMSHost Asia. For the last five years as Director of Consumer Products and Concessions at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, Autar successfully lead the retail, advertising, parking and general concessions business units.

Autar will develop and execute strategies to promote growth in the airport concession business for HMSHost and Autogrill in the rapidly growing Asian region. Long term traffic forecasts estimate that by 2025 Asia Pacific airline traffic will increase to 33% of worldwide share from its current 24%. (Source: Rolls-Royce, The Outlook 2006).

"Asia Pacific traffic is growing rapidly and we are confident that Mr. Autar's extensive experience in Amsterdam Schiphol, a recognized leader for innovative commercial management, will aid him in serving the needs of this market," said HMSHost President and CEO Elie W. Maalouf. "Evaluating expansion opportunities, building new airport partners and leveraging our global group capabilities will be our first priority."

The main HMSHost Asia office will be located in Singapore and will be operational in the spring of 2007.

Before joining HMSHost, Mr. Autar had a 10-year career at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam where he worked in several business capacities, including concept development, account management, master planning and marketing. He holds degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the Delft University of Technology and studied Economics at Erasmus University Rotterdam.

About HMSHost

HMSHost is world-renowned for creating customized shopping and dining spaces in travel venues. The innovative company operates in more than 90 airport locations around the globe, including 18 of the 20 busiest airports in North America. HMSHost has annual sales in excess of \$2.0 billion and employs more than 26,000 associates worldwide.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Autogrill S.p.A, HMSHost and the Autogrill Group are recognized leaders in travel amenities. With sales exceeding \$4.0 billion, Autogrill is present in 30 countries with over 4,500 points of sale in 979 locations (including 138 airports and 645 motorways) where 51,000 employees serve over 800 million customers every year.

Visit www.HMSHost.com for more information.

##