



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**GRUPPO CREMONINI: wins the contract to manage logistics services for trains leaving the "Gare du Nord" in Paris.**

**Expected turnover 90 million Euros in 6 years.**

The Cremonini Group has won its bid for the SNCF (Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer français) contract to manage the logistics centre at the "Gare du Nord" railway station in Paris.

The centre deals with handling activities relating to all trains leaving the station and with making up trays for meals served on board Eurostar, Thalys and some high speed French trains.

Expected annual turnover is estimated at around 15 million Euros with over 1.2 million trays prepared per year.

The contract – drawn up through the subsidiary Cremonini Restauration France – is for six years, with operational start-up on 1 January 2004, being the date on which the switchover from the present service management company will have been completed and the 320 employees currently employed in these areas will be transferred to Cremonini.

With the management of the Gare du Nord centre, Cremonini is further strengthening its role as an international player in on-board restaurant services and is affirming its expansion strategy in Europe, where it can develop logistic synergies with the restaurant activities it already carries out.

In partnership with the British group Compass, Cremonini exclusively handles restaurant services on 70 Eurostar trains connecting London with Paris and Brussels daily through the Channel tunnel.

The Group also manages services on board 75 Thalys International trains connecting Brussels to Paris, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Cologne, Roissy and Disneyland Paris, as well as operating on stretches of the international France-Italy line for French TGVs, and managing on-board restaurant services for trains along the Paris-Clermont Ferrand and Paris-Lausanne-Zurich lines.

**Cremonini**, with over 4,850 employees, is one of the most important food groups in Europe, operating in three business areas: distribution to the food service industry, production and restaurant services.

The Group, with total earnings of 1,589.3 million Euros in 2002, is the absolute leader in Italy in the production of beef and meat based products (**Montana**) and in the marketing and distribution of food products to the food service industry (**Marr**). It also has a considerable presence in the restaurant sector and, in particular, it is the leading company in Italy in on-board and railway station restaurant services (**Chef Express**).

Castelvetro di Modena, 10 ottobre 2003