



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**CHEF EXPRESS (Cremonini Group): in 2005, 720,000 meals and 13.5 million clients (+4.5% compared to 2004) were served on Italian trains.**

**78% of Eurostar travellers and 69% of Eurocity and Intercity travellers promote the quality of the service.**

**40% of table meals served on the Milan-Naples-Milan route.**

**From the beginning of the year, Chef Express is also on the high-speed Rome-Naples-Rome line.**

The 2005 balance for catering on board trains activities by the Cremonini S.p.A. Catering Division is satisfactory. During the course of the year, it served 13.5 million clients overall in Italy, an increase of 4.5% compared to 2004. **This service has been appreciated by 78% of Eurostar clients and 69% of Eurocity and Intercity clients.**

Activities are carried out under the Chef Express brand on 280 trains in Italy (of which 142 are Eurostar and 138 Eurocity or Intercity) and include, depending on the type of train, bars/restaurants, bistros and mini-bars.

In particular, during the course of the year, about 720,000 table meals were served, while the number of welcome drinks offered on board was 5,437,918 (+6% compared to 2004).

The route which saw the highest consumption of meals was Milan-Naples-Milan (288,000, 40% of the total meals served in restaurant cars), followed, at a distance, by the Adriatic Milan-Bari-Lecce route and the Rome-Venice-Rome route, with 144,000 meals served on each, 20% of the total.

About 5,300,000 clients were served through the Bar service in 2005.

The quantitative improvement to the service was also supported by the qualitative aspect. In fact, data from the survey which constantly measures customer satisfaction among clients show that in 2005, about 78% of Eurostar clients (and 69% of Eurocity and Intercity clients) were in favour of the overall service provided by Cremonini, confirming the positive trend in 2004. In particular, the aspect which was appreciated most was the "quality of service by personnel (courtesy and availability)" (about 92% of clients satisfied).

The Cremonini/Chef Express restaurant services were also operational, as of November 2005, on board the *t-biz* trains connecting Rome and Milan, while at the beginning of 2006, the services on



the first High-Speed Trains on the Rome-Naples route were inaugurated. The *caring* service dedicated to travellers on this type of train, which represents the top class of the Eurostar fleet, is especially articulated and detailed.

The Cremonini Group is currently the 2<sup>nd</sup> European player in catering on board trains, in which it operates daily on over 630 trains in 7 European countries, serving over 35 million clients.

In particular, in addition to Trenitalia trains in Italy, Cremonini operates on British Eurostar trains connecting London, Paris and Brussels, on Belgian Thalys trains on routes between Brussels, Paris, Cologne, Dusseldorf and Amsterdam, on the Italian-Swiss Cisalpino trains, on the high-speed TGV trains connecting Italy and France, the high-speed Lyria trains (between France and Switzerland) and Corail trains in France.

In the catering sector in 2005, Cremonini achieved overall returns of 299.3 million Euro, an increase of 11.6% compared to 2004. "On board in Europe" refreshments activities alone accounted for 155.00 million Euro, 35% of which was realised in Italy.

Cremonini, with about 6,700 employees, is one of the most important foodstuff groups in Europe, and operates in three business areas: production, distribution and catering.

The Group, with total revenues of 2,128.9 million Euro in 2005, is the overall leader in Italy in the production of beef and meat-based processed products (Montana) and the commercialisation and distribution of foodstuff products to foodservice (Marr). It also has a significant presence in the catering sector and, in particular, is the leader in Italy in catering on board trains and in railway stations (Chef Express). Lastly, the Group is 2nd in the Italian market in motorway catering (Moto).

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