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Gibson Sale & Purchase Market Report



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Tankers – Time to Drink A Vintage

As we close reporting for 2023, we look back on a year that perhaps defied naysayer's expectations. That is to say that the explosion of ship values in 2022, on the back of the Russian war on Ukraine and consequent escalation of dark fleet trading, seemed impossible to continue with the same fervor in 2023. However, many asset classes, despite a notable summer wobble, have notched up 10-15% gains year on year, particularly in the aframax/suezmax segments. MR-LR1 product tankers have for their part gained steady to good ground, with 10-year-old LR1s and 15-year-old MR2 tonnage being where the bigger crude matched appreciation has been evident, and almost not a week going by without some vintage MR sale to register – this indeed with the notable Russian controlled "SCF ANGARA" (50,956 dwt / built 2008 STX Jinhae) showing it's Ice 1A appeal at US\$ 25 m this week.

Vintage VLCCs are perhaps the only blot on this pretty picture of appreciation, with 10-year-old tonnage worth broadly the same then substantially declining in value by vintage, where the S&P market is currently over-tonnaged. This vintage end is certainly not assisted by 2024 promising a turbo boost leap forward in ship emissions regulation/trading but is conversely aiding some astonishing price achievements in the Tier III specification modern VLCC fold, where resale values are now finally back out in front of newbuilding prices, although with VLCC/Suez/Afra earnings all running Disproportionally to Dwt, the Aframax remains the darling workhorse of choice and king of the resale premia and Q4 proving a busy quarter for Aframax/LR2s newbuilding orders accordingly.

Dry Cargo - Dry Reflections

As 2023 draws to a close we can reflect on what kind of year it has been for dry ships. Certainly there has been a large element of volatility in freight rates but at least we can console ourselves that earnings are in a better place than they were a year ago with revenues sitting at pretty healthy levels. Looking at value movements over the year it is not surprising that levels have firmed over the year with the

Baltic Dry Sale and Purchase Index standing at close to 9 pct higher that at the same time last year. It is evident that values have recently stabilised and even softened given the recent downward trajectory of rates. The reported sale of kamsarmax the "MELODIA" (80,554 dwt / built 2013 JMU, Japan) at excess US\$ 22 m illustrates a slight softening when compared to the sale of the similar "ROYAL FUKUYAMA", which was sold in October for reg US\$ 23 m. Similarly, the off-market sale of "ULTRA TIGER" (83,611 dwt / built 2009 Sanoyas, Japan) in the US\$ low 16s is a similar level achieved by these owners for their year older sister the "ULTRA PANTHER" also in October.

The stand-out deal of the year is Star Bulk Carriers' takeover of Eagle Bulk Shipping, creating the largest US-listed bulk company with a fleet of 169 bulk carriers ranging from capes to supramaxes. This underlines the continued push for consolidation in the industry, just as we have already seen in the tanker sector. Next year owners will see the results of the first year of implementation of CII and EEXI and it will be interesting to how these ratings results will be coordinated and developed by market protagonists.

Recycling – Taking a Break

We come to the end of 2023 in a similar vein to how we left 2022, i.e. ending on a damp squib and without much to shout about. The year has been active in parts with sporadic recycling here and there, which has consisted primarily of containerships and dry-bulk tonnage (many of these units coming from the East), but a combination of geopolitical activities, healthy returns on freight rates, and second-hand values holding firm, has meant owners of vintage tonnage have not and are not willing to have 'scrapping' conversations at this moment in time. Will the tide turn during 2024? Of course we hope so and breakers will be eager to secure inventory for their yards, and we will no doubt see more of the same type of tonnage being scrapped. We may also see other types heading for the breakers, but unfortunately we do not envisage seeing many tankers being phased out for some time yet. So let us enjoy the seasonal festivities and look forward to what next year brings!

Gibson Sale & Purchase Market Report

S&P SALES

Vessel Name	DWT	Built	Yard	Buyers	Price (\$/m)	Notes
			BULKERS			
BEKS BROWN	206,204	2005	Imabari (Japan)	Chinese buyer	16.50	DD postponed 1/24. BWTS. Scrubber.
ULTRA TIGER	83,611	2009	Sanoyas (Japan)	Undisclosed	low 16	SS due 5/26. BWTS.
MELODIA	80,554	2013	JMU (Japan)	Undisclosed	xs 22	SS psd 5/23. BWTS.
TOPAZ	75,574	2004	Sanoyas (Japan)	Undisclosed	xs 10.5	SS due 6/24. BWTS.
UNITY ENDEAVOUR	61,617	2014	NACKS (China)	Bernhard Schulte	23.00	SS due 8/24. BWTS. Inc TC to 5-9/24 @ 110.5% ave BSI.
XING XI HAI	60,492	2017	Mitsui (Japan)	Scandinavian buyer	29.00	DD due 1/25. BWTS.
XING SHOU HAI	60,492	2016	Mitsui (Japan)	Greek buyer	28.00	DD due 10/24. BWTS.
TR CROWN	53,474	2005	Imabari (Japan)	Korean buyer	10.30	SS due 2/25. BWTS. Dely 2- 3/24.

CLIPPER COPENHAGEN	37,852	2010	Jiangsu Eastern (China)	Armator Shipping	11.20	SS due 6/26. BWTS. Ice 1C.		
			TANKERS					
SERENEA	158,583	2009	Samsung (Korea)	Eurotankers	reg 46	SS due 6/24. BWTS. Scrubber.		
S-TRUST	106,094	2005	Hyundai Samho (Korea)	Undisclosed	32.00	DD due 12/23.		
CHEMTRANS MOON + CHEMTRANS SEA	72,365	both 2004	Hudong Zhonghua (China)	Undisclosed	reg 17 each	Pump-room. SS due 1+4/24. BWTS. Prompt dely.		
SCF ANGARA	50,956	2008	STX Jinhae (Korea)	Undisclosed	25.00	Ice 1A. Deepwell. SS due 12/23. BWTS.		
HANA	47,198	1997	Onomichi (Japan)	Undisclosed	6.50	Pump-room. SS due 12/23.		
ALICUDI M	40,083	2004	Shina (Korea)	Turkish buyer	14.50	Deepwell. SS due 2/24. BWTS novated.		
BLUE TRADER	37,270	2005	Hyundai Mipo (Korea)	Turkish buyer	17.80	Ice 1B. Deepwell. SS due 3/25. BWTS. Already renamed.		
XING HAI HUA 728	17,204	2009	Zhejiang Zhenxing (China)	Undisclosed	8.20	Epoxy. SS due 9/24. FS Ice II.		
HZ SINGAPURA	13,899	2022	Fujian Shenglong (China)	Tupras	21.50	Epoxy. 18 grades. DD due 1/25. BWTS.		
CONTAINERS / RO-RO / REEFER / PCC								
ROTTERDAM BRIDGE	50,953	2001	Saumsung (Korea)	Undisclosed	12.50	4,253 TEU. Gearless. SS psd 2/23.		
SUNNY IRIS	12,454	2013	Dae Sun (Korea)	NT Marine Co Ltd	10.20	1,048 TEU. Gearless. SS due 11/23. BWTS. Already renamed.		

NEWBUILDING ORDERS

Ordering Client	Vessel Type	Size / No. of units	Shipyard (Country)	Delivery	Price (\$m)	Notes		
TANKERS								
Performance Shipping	LR2	115,000 dwt x 2	SWS (China)	2026	64.85	Scrubber. LNG ready.		
Advantage Tankers	LR1	73,400 dwt x 2	K Shipbuilding (Korea)	2025-2026	-	-		
GAS (LNG / LPG / LAG / CO2)								
Scale Gas	LNG BV	12,500 cbm x 1	Nantong CIMC Sinopacific (China)	2026	-	Bunkering. Elec propulsion.		
	BULKERS							



MOL	Newcastlemax	210,000 dwt x 3	Qingdao Beihai (China)	2026-2027	86.00	LNG dual dual.	
MOL	Newcastlemax	209,000 dwt x 2	Nihon - Imabari (Japan)	2026-2027	-	LNG dual dual.	
Angelakos	Kamsarmax	82,000 dwt x 3	DACKS (China)	2026	ca. 39	-	
Safe Bulkers	Kamsarmax	82,000 dwt x 1	TBN (Japan)	2026	-	-	
Century Bulk Carriers	Ultramax	64,000 dwt x 3	NACKS (China)	2026	-	-	
East Med	Ultramax	63,500 dwt x 4	Nantong Xiangyu (China)	2026	sub 34	-	
CONTAINERS / RO-RO / REEFER / PCC							
AP Moller-Maersk	Containership	3,500 TEU x 6+9-11	Huangpu Wenchong (China)	2026-2027	ca. 68	Methanol dual- fuel.	
General Cargo / Tween / Multi-purpose							
SAL Heavy Lift	Muli-Purpose	14,600 dwt x 1	Wuhu (China)	2025	-	Declared options. Methanol DF. Battery hybrid.	

Recycling Prices (US\$/LWT)

	Bangladesh	Pakistan	India	Turkey
Tankers / Cont / Ro-Ro / Capes / PCC / LPG / LNG	530 - 560	530 - 550	520 - 540	315 - 330
Bulkers / Tween / General Cargo	520 - 530	510 - 520	500 - 510	300 - 315

Newbuild	and	Second	Hand	Benchmark	Values
(t million)					

Historical Average Values (\$ million)

(\$ 1111111011)		<u>(\$ 111111011)</u>						
Vessel Type	New Building	5 Year Old Vessel (Built 2017)	10 Year Old Vessel (Built 2012)	10 Year Old Vessel~ (10 Years Average)	% Difference Present Vs Historical			
Tankers								
VLCC	128.00	100.00	75.00	50.00	50.00%			
Suezmax	85.00	78.00	61.00	35.70	70.90%			
Aframax	70.00	70.50	55.00	28.00	96.40%			
MR	47.50	44.00	34.50	19.80	74.20%			
Bulkers								
Capesize	66.50	51 (eco)	30.50	24.60	24.00%			
Kamsarmax	36^	33.50	22.50	16.90	33.10%			
Ultramax / Supramax	33.5^	30.00	19.50	14.50	34.50%			
Handysize	30^	26.00	17.00	11.90	42.90%			
~ = Basis standard contemporaneous ^ = Chinese price (otherwise based upon Japanese / Korean country of build)								

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CJC Market News



Campbell Johnston Clark (CJC) is a medium-sized international law firm advising on all aspects of the shipping sector, from ship finance to dry shipping and comprehensive casualty handling, and all that happens in between. Today, we have offices in London, Newcastle, Singapore and Miami.

Louis Dreyfus Company chooses bound4blue to Install Four eSAILS on Juice Vessel



Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC), a global agricultural goods leader, has chosen bound4blue for an eco-friendly transformation of its chartered juice vessel. In collaboration with Wisby Tankers AB, Sweden, bound4blue will install four innovative 26-meter-high eSAILs® on the MV Atlantic Orchard in 2024.

Owned by Wisby Tankers and chartered by LDC, the vessel retrofit aims to reduce annual fuel consumption and CO2 emissions by a minimum of 10%, subject to the chosen vessel routes.

Bound4blue's advanced eSAIL® system employs wind-assisted propulsion, utilizing suction sails for a remarkable seven times more lift than conventional airplane wings. The decision to adopt this technology follows a meticulous assessment by Lloyd's Register, affirming bound4blue's suction sails as the solution.

José Miguel Bermúdez, bound4blue's CEO, expressed excitement about the partnership, stating, "LDC's commitment to emission reduction aligns with our mission. This collaboration underscores our technology's maturity and adaptability."

Sébastien Landerretche, LDC's Global Head of Freight, emphasized the company's dedication to a low-carbon economy, saying, "Partnering with bound4blue and Wisby Tankers reinforces our commitment to advanced sail technology for sustainable shipping."

The eSAILs® installation on MV Atlantic Orchard is slated for 2024, marking a significant step toward cleaner and more efficient maritime transport. The collaboration signals a joint effort to propel the shipping industry towards a greener future.

The press release can be read here.

USA Announces New Naval Coalition to Protect Shipping Interests in Red Sea



In response to the increasing number of shipping companies diverting from the Suez route (including Maersk, MSC, and CMA CGM), the Pentagon announced on Monday that it would be launching Operation Prosperity Guardian to protect merchant vessels transiting the Red Sea via the Bad el-Mandeb strait.

While the Operation's rules of engagement are unknown beyond being focused on "ensuring freedom of navigation for all countries and bolstering regional security and prosperity." (per

the Department of Defense's announcement), the confirmed list of members includes the United Kingdom, US, Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Bahrain, Norway, Spain, and the Seychelles. While this list does notably exclude major regional allies such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia, an additional ten nations have reportedly joined on the condition of anonymity.

Though a naval escort for every vessel travelling through the region would be impractical given the sheer number of merchant ships operating in the area under usual circumstances, it seems that the operation would instead position military vessels in key areas to deter attacks from Houthi rebels, who have been growing bolder since their initial hijacking of the Galaxy Leader in November.

The Department of Defense's statement can be found here.

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