



TANKERS

CHARTERING

Crude

The VLCC market maintained its momentum from the MEG and remained stable in the Atlantic. Most pundits continue to subscribe to the idea that double hull VLCCs will continue to see rates rise, particularly for voyages MEG/East. The WAF Suezmax market had to absorb a correction to ws210, but it is presently stable at this level with a good balance between supply and demand. Suezmaxes in the Bsea/Med had a much bumpier ride with a volatile, date-sensitive market; present rates are around ws280 for cross Med and ws270 for Bsea/Med. Since our last report limited activity forced Aframax rates in the Nsea and the Med to ease off, but both markets now appear to be picking up momentum and rates are firming. The Caribs Aframax market continued what has turned out to be a lengthy decline and upcoast rates are now at the ws155 level basis 70,000 m/t.

Product

The transatlantic market topped off at ws350 before declining to ws335 basis 37,000 m/t. The Baltic LR1 market softened along with the MR transatlantic market, and last done is around ws240 basis 65,000 m/t. Handies trading cross NWEurope firmed further and rates reached the ws310 level basis 22,000 m/t. Even though there was plenty of inquiry emanating from the States, the Caribs upcoast market turned downward some 25 ws points from last week to ws300 basis 38,000 m/t. It appears that the market in the Western Hemisphere is taking a breather and even though rates have declined, it is expected that the uncovered remaining stems will probably stabilize the market around current levels. There were only cosmetic improvements in the east of Suez market with LR1 rates MEG/Japan firming to ws170 basis 55,000, whilst LR2 rates reached ws140 basis 75,000 m/t on the same route. In line with this, MEG/UKC rates improved about USD 100,000 to USD 1.9 million basis 65,000 m/t. There was no change for MRs trading Spore/Japan and rates remained at ws170 basis 30,000 m/t. Even though there were some small improvements, there is little to indicate that this is the beginning of a trend.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

VLCC Firm	Suezmax Firm	Aframax Mixed		Product Mixed	
		This Week	Last Week	Low 2008	High 2008
RATES					
DIRTY (Spot WS)					
MEG / West	VLCC	120.0	105.0	65.0	175.0
MEG / Japan	VLCC	180.0	140.0	77.5	255.0
MEG / Singapore	260,000	185.0	145.0	80.0	265.0
WAF / USG	260,000	160.0	160.0	85.0	190.0
WAF / USAC	130,000	210.0	250.0	115.0	250.0
Sidi Kerir / W Me	135,000	280.0	280.0	110.0	280.0
N. Afr / Euromed	80,000	240.0	280.0	115.0	395.0
UK / Cont	80,000	150.0	250.0	117.5	270.0
Caribs / USG	70,000	155.0	200.0	105.0	325.0
CLEAN (Spot WS)					
MEG / Japan	75,000	140.0	135.0	135.0	200.0
MEG / Japan	55,000	170.0	155.0	155.0	240.0
MEG / Japan	30,000	240.0	235.0	215.0	330.0
Singapore / Japan	30,000	170.0	170.0	170.0	265.0
Baltic T/A	65,000	240.0	250.0	165.0	250.0
UKC-Med / States	37,000	335.0	345.0	195.0	345.0
Caribs / USNH	38,000	300.0	290.0	180.0	300.0
1 YEAR T/C (usd per day) (theoretical)					
VLCC (modern)	75,000	70,000	60,000	75,000	
Suezmax (modern)	42,500	42,500	42,000	47,500	
Aframax (modern)	31,000	30,000	30,000	35,000	
LR2	105,000	32,000	32,000	31,500	32,000
LR1	80,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	27,000
MR	40,000	21,750	21,750	21,750	23,750
VLCCs fixed all areas last week:	44	previous week:	56		
VLCCs avail. in MEG next 30 days:	59	last week:	63		

SALE AND PURCHASE

Vessel	Size	Built	Buyer	Price	Comm.
Bourgogne	296,230	1996	BP	115.00	D/H, FPSO conv
Pacific Ruby	96,173	1994	Middle eastern	37.00	D/H
Aegean Tiger	88,950	1990	Chinese	20.00	D/S, for conv
Brasa	40,400	1991	Greeks	30.00	D/B
Balta	40,400	1990			enbloc
4 x Jinse resales	13,000	2008	German KG	28.00	each
FS Victoria	3,740	1999	Russians	6.00	D/B

DRY BULK

CHARTERING

Handy

Market is booming, regardless the area, although Black Sea, Continent and US Gulf marked the pace. Continent to Far East route is now offering rates in excess of usd 73,000 while Black Sea to Far East is now worth usd 68/70,000. Nord Ocean was fixed for the voyage from Continent to Red Sea at usd 88,000. We have seen a number of 1 year period fixtures concluded in the range of usd 58,000-59,500 basis delivery in India/Far East. Average index improved by usd 4500.

Panamax

The Panamax market started this week with a real boost from last week. The average BPI started at USD 73,673 and jumped up to 74,693 before sliding down to 72,097 at the end of the week. Activity level maintained high during the week, and some strong fixtures both in the spot and period market was concluded. In the Atlantic the TA's was fixed in the mid USD 80,000 level for good positioned vsls, and period vsls delivery Atlantic got substantially better paid than Pacific deliveries. A 82,000 dwt vsl was fixed for 1 year at 77,500 delivery Hamburg. In the Pacific a LME roundtrip got around USD 67,000, and 7/9 months period vsl fixed at 77,000. Fronthaul legs continued its strong presence, and a 68,000dwt received 93,000 daily for trip via Murmansk to China, and a LME from Rotterdam via Brazil fixed USD 91,500. Backhaul biz was fixed around mid USD 50,000.

Capesize

Cape rates continued to rise with the tc average moving more than \$15,000, to \$166,000. A shortage of Atlantic tonnage pushed the fronthaul rate from \$200,000 to \$235,000 and the Brazil/China rate from \$80.00 to over \$90.00. The ta round reached \$190,000, \$35,000 higher than a week ago. Although the Pacific market was less hectic major ore charterers continued to take tonnage in the high \$140's, reducing the supply of ballast for Brazil cargoes. The WAustralia/China rate remained stable at \$31/32.00. The period market remained active and good rates were seen. Two 177,000dw n/b/s from SWS with delivery summer 2008 were fixed for 5 years at \$82,000, whilst a 171,000 tonner with May delivery in China achieved \$145,000 for 1 year. A 1996 built 161,000 tonner fixed \$150,000 for 1 year with Cont delivery early May.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Capesize Firm	Panamax Firm		Handysize Active		
	This Week	Last Week	Low 2008	High 2008	
RATES					
CAPE SIZE (usd/day, usd/tonne)					
TCT Cont/Far East (172' dwt)	232,000	205,000	120,000	232,000	
Tubarao / R.dam (Iron ore)	47.45	39.50	24.50	47.45	
Queensland/ R.dam (Coal)	54.50	53.00	38.00	57.00	
PANAMAX					
Transatlantic RV	84,000	82,500	50,000	84,000	
TCT Cont / F. East	91,000	92,000	58,500	92,000	
TCT F. East / Cont	51,000	54,000	30,750	54,000	
TCT F. East RV	62,500	66,500	33,500	67,000	
Murmansk b.13-ARA 15/25,000 sc	26.65	26.25		26.65	
Murmansk b.13-L.pool 15/25,000 sc	25.65	27.50		27.50	
Murmansk/Rotterdam and Murmansk/Liverpool rates calculations are always based on Wednesday's Baltic TARV index value as reported					
HANDYSIZE					
Atlantic RV	65,750	61,700		79,000	
Pacific RV	50,000	46,250		55,750	
TCT Cont / F. East	73,250	69,500		74,000	
1 YEAR T/C (usd per day)					
Capesize	150,000 dwt	128,000	125,000	95,000	142,000
Capesize	170,000 dwt	145,000	142,000	110,000	157,000
Panamax	75,000 dwt	74,000	75,000	55,000	75,000
Handysize	53,000 dwt	61,500	61,500		62,000
Baltic Dry Index (BDI):		This Week: 9356	Last week: 8862		

SALE AND PURCHASE

Vessel	Size	Built	Buyer	Price	Comm.
CMB Florentina	76,838	2005	Globus	87.00	tc 2/11 @54k/d
Cargo Endurance	45,244	1978	Bogazzi	15.00	5/15cr
North Star	43,219	1985	TBS	34.00	5/25cr
Columbia River	28,527	1998	Greeks	44.00	4/30cr

**GAS****CHARTERING**

The large vessels' market came to a halt last week, as did the positive freight development of late. The Baltic VLGC index rate has "frozen" for a few days and there is an ongoing discussion as to where freight rates are heading in May. Most vessels showing open in May are controlled by independent owners who do not see any reason whatsoever to lower rates, on the other hand the market has not figured out how many more spot cargoes the suppliers can still sell. May posted prices are just out - China, Korea and Japan are about to go on respective holidays until middle of next week, so by the look of it market should stay calm until then.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

COASTER	15-23,000 cbm		82,000 cbm	
	Stable	Mixed	Low	High
RATES	This Week	Last Week	Low 2008	High 2008
SPOT MARKET				
82.000 cbm / FR	755,000	755,000	160,000	1,050,000
27.000 cbm / FR	890,000	890,000	890,000	980,000
35.600 cbm / FR	870,000	885,000	870,000	955,000
20.000 cbm / SR*	850,000	850,000	850,000	960,000
10.000 cbm ETH**	760,000	740,000	720,000	760,000
6.500 cbm / SR	575,000	575,000	565,000	575,000
COASTER Europe	325,000	325,000	225,000	325,000
COASTER Asia	225,000	235,000	225,000	262,500

* 20,000 cbm s/r reflects average spot market, LPG and Petchems (segment 15,000 / 23,000 cbm)

** 10,000 cbm eth reflects average spot market, Petchems and LPG (segment 8,200 / 12,500 cbm)

LPG/FOB prices	Propane	Butane	ISO
FOB North Sea / ANSI	769.00	773.50	
Saudi Arabia / CP	805.00	815.00	
MT Belvieu (US Gulf)	847.92	888.70	928.25
Sonatrach : Bethioua	780.00	783.00	

SALE AND PURCHASE

Vessel	Cbm	Type	Built	Buyers	Price	Misc
Capt. Leon Lemos	82000	FR	2008	Solvang	88.00	

DEMOLITION

Vessels sold for demolition	VLCC/VLOO	SUEZMAX	CAPE/OBO
Year to date 2008:	0	0	0
Year to date 2007:	0	2	0
2007 total:	0	2	0

SOLD FOR DEMOLITION

Vessel name	Size	Ldt	Built	Buyer	Price
MT Keefan	66652	15793	1982	as is Kuwait	675
MT Warbah	66652	15793	1982	as is Kuwait	675

NEWBUILDING**GENERAL COMMENT**

VLCC orders have dominated the newbuilding headlines the last couple of weeks and so also this week with another 6 vessels contracted. Frontline has confirmed order for 4 VLCCs at the Zhoushan Jinhaiwan yard with option for further 2 more units. Fredriksen's Golden Ocean has already 17 newbuildings at the yard. Newbuilding prices are still remaining firm although the activity level is far from the record braking activity seen last year.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Tankers	Dry Bulkers	Others
Active	Slower	Moderate

Average Far Eastern Prices

PRICES		This Week	Last Week	Low 2008	High 2008
VLCC	300'dwt	144.0	144.0	141.0	144.0
Suezmax	150'dwt	89.0	89.0	88.0	89.0
Aframax	110'dwt	71.0	71.0	69.0	71.0
Product	47'dwt	51.0	51.0	51.0	51.0
Capesize	180'dwt	93.0	93.0	93.0	95.0
Panamax	76'dwt	52.0	52.0	52.0	52.0
Handymax	56'dwt	46.0	46.0	45.0	46.0

NEWBUILDING CONTRACTS

Type	No	Size	Yard	Owner	Del	Mill\$	Comm.
BC	2	180000 dwt	Sasebo	SK Shipping	2012		
BC	2	180000 dwt	C & Heavy	Shandong F.E. Marine			
CO	6	336 teu	Damen	Oslo Marine Group	2009-11		
CO	4	803 teu	Damen	Oslo Marine Group	2009-11		
CO	4	2800 teu	Guangzhou Wenchong	Schoeller Holdings	2011/12		
LPG	1	9500 cbm	Miura	Geogas	2012		
MT	3	159000 dwt	Samsung	Euronav	2010/11		
MT	2	298000 dwt	Dalian	Vanship Holdings	2010/2011	135	
MT	4+2	320000 dwt	Zhoushan Jinhaiwan	Frontline	2011		
PC	2	73500 dwt	SPP	Overseas Shipholding	2011		
ro/lo/pax	1	125 teu	Kraljevica	Transport Desgagnes	-		

MARKET BRIEF

Rate of exchange	This Week	Last Week	Low 2008	High 2008
JPY/USD	104.00	102.94	96.90	111.45
KRW/USD	1002.75	991.50	937.35	1029.20
NOK/USD	5.13	4.96	4.96	5.54
USD/EUR	1.56	1.60	1.46	1.60
Interest rate				
Eurodollar 12 mnths	3.28	3.10	2.48	4.25
EuroNOK 12 mnths	6.42	6.50	5.67	6.50
Commodity prices				
Brent spot (USD)	113.57	115.04	87.52	115.04
Bunker prices				
Singapore	180 CST	557.00	552.00	451.00
	380 CST	526.00	530.00	440.00
	Gasoil	1077.00	1077.00	770.00
Rotterdam	180 CST	535.00	545.00	432.00
	380 CST	496.00	506.00	404.00
	Diesel	990.00	992.00	702.00

