Charles R. Weber Research WEBEKLY MARKET REPORT

Week 13 • March 27, 2020

VLCC: The roller coaster ride in the Arabian Gulf sector continued this week. Last week TD3 fell from ws220 to ws120 and initially this week saw some further diminishing as ws87.5 was concluded on a modern unit. However, the drop was short-lived as an influx of time charter and spot inquiries led to a resurgence of rates, pushing TD3 up to ws190 by week's end. With charterers and traders clamoring to lock tonnage up on period business, the list of available tonnage decreased and we saw a revival of spot inquiry in the AG, USG and West Africa. With sentiment clearly in the owners favor, Friday saw eastbound rates climb 10 points at a time moving up 70 points on the final day of the week. The latest TCE's are yielding over \$220,000 per day for TD3. There were 40 fixtures reported this week from the AG, bringing the April cargo tally to 80 and leaving another 65 or so cargoes to go (assuming we continue the pace of March's cargo program). With no anticipated change in production, expectations are for at least that many stems in April. The position list shows a balanced supply and demand equation with some 75 or so vessels available over that same period of time and points to further market strength for the short term.

SUEZMAX: Demand in the West was stronger this week, enabling a significant rebound in rates after bottoming out at ws100 for the TD20 route. A very active VLCC sector created additional inquiries for Suezmax. This has improved overall market fundamentals and created stability from last week's downward slide. The TD20 route improved 37.5 points from the start of the week off the back of a more balanced tonnage list and improving rates in alternative load areas. TD20 finished the week at ws140, which yields a TCE of around \$74,000/day (IFO 380) / 71,900/day (0.5%). The BSEA>MED route ended the week at ws145, which boosted the TCE return up to around \$88,000/day (IFO 380) / \$87,700/day (0.5%). In the USG/CBS region, increased demand in both North and South America coupled with a patchy tonnage list have applied upward pressure on rates across the board. The USG>TA route received a boost from bullish sentiment spilling over from the active West Africa and Mediterranean markets pushing rates up to around ws120 basis 145,000mt cargo size. The USG export market also followed suit to the firming VLCC's. East rates were up over \$7.0m (lump-sum) for USG>Singapore. With plenty of upward pressure on both VLCC's and Aframax's going into next week, expect the Suezmax USG export rates to remain strong in the short term. TD20 ended the week settling at ws138.64 which is up 28.87 points from this time last week.

AFRAMAX: The week kicked off with charterers getting a firm grip on the downward pressure which pushed rates even further down as the week progressed. TD9 saw rates fall nearly 30 points from ws165 at the start of the week. Trans-Atlantic saw a drop near 25 points from ws145 during the second half of the week. Cargo inquiries were out there however it was not enough to pick off the healthy supply of tonnage. The majority of trades this week were done on Trans-Atlantic routes which allowed owners to bring rates back up to the ws130-135 range by Friday which has T/A sentiment poised through the weekend. Now, with inquiries picking up and rates hovering near last done, expect next week to be a good indicator of where the market is headed. Across the pond in Europe, markets have stabilized through the week, dropping anywhere from 15-30 points by the end of the week. Cross UKC and Cross Med kicked off trading near ws180 and finished near ws165 and ws160 as there was not enough inquiries to pick off local tonnage. Now, with many charterers asking questions about short-term time charter and storage, the market should be poised for movement come Monday. Balt/Cont trades fell nearly 30 points this week, closing near ws125, and had a similar trend to most of the European markets. Low inquiries and increased tonnage throughout the region dampened rates with many charterers starting to look for short-term time charter and storage across the region.

MR: The European market can best be divided into two halves with the first half of the week witnessing a softening only to later reverse course on Wednesday for the second half of the week. Increased transatlantic and West Africa demand combined with naphtha pulling ships east helped surge TC2 rates up approximately 20 points to ws185 for 37,000dwt. This may just be a temporary burst, but nonetheless ends the week on a more positive position from where it began. Unfortunately, the USG had no such fortune as a plentiful list and quiet start set the market in a downward motion. Once early April stems began to work mid-week, charterers had their "pick of the litter" bringing rates down substantially. Longer hauls such as USG>Chile have slid down to lump sum \$1.3m, while USG>Brazil appears untested around the ws140 barrier. Short hauls fared no better as USG>CBS fell to low \$400,000's and USG>EC Mexico to low \$200,000's. Barring the exception of product storage, which only seems to be in the "question stage", expectations are for further weakening for the foreseeable future.









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	JTES (13kts L B)	Week 12 WS L\$	Week 13 WS L\$	Week 12 TCE*	Week 13 TCE**	*Week 12 Bunkers VLSFO \$294/MT	**Week 13 Bunke VLSFO \$274/MT
	AG>USG • 280,000 (dwt)	159.00	91.00				
	AG>SPORE • 270,000	170.00	106.00	\$199,310	\$117,606	Time Charter 1 Year v.	3 Years (\$ day):
	AG>JPN • 265,000	164.00	103.50	\$198,506	\$118,831	\$57,500	\$34,000
	AG>CHINA • 270,000	175.00	108.50	\$202,762	\$117,939		1 - 7
	WAFR>CHINA • 260,000	169.00	104.50	\$191,476	\$111,993	# Ships Trading:	796
	USG>SPORE-AG	12.8m	11.73m	\$188,849	\$172,663	% Fleet on Order:	8%
	AG>USG/USG>SPORE-AG	12.000		\$277,976	\$192,661	Ships to Breakers:	
	-					Ships to breakers.	No Activity
UEZMAX	VLCC Average Earnings ⁺			\$196,007	\$122,771		
	WAFR>USG • 130,000	179.50	103.00	\$101,957	\$53,148		
	WAFR>UKC • 130,000	184.50	108.00	\$97,199	\$50,290	Time Charter 1 Year v.	3 Years (\$1 day):
	BSEA>MED • 140,000	191.00	123.00	\$122,363	\$67,599	\$41,000	
	CBS>USG • 150,000	143.00	116.50	\$92,723	\$71,941	Ş41,000	920,000
	-					# Chine Tredings	F 20
	USG>UKC • 150,000	123.00	96.50	\$73,706	\$54,498	# Ships Trading:	538
	CBS>USG/USG>UKC-WAFR			\$90,845	\$68,227	% Fleet on Order:	10%
	AG>USG • 140,000	154.00	74.00	\$121,033	\$52,343	Ships to Breakers:	No Activity
	USG>SPORE	7.20m	5.45m				
	AG>USG/USG>SPORE-AG			\$134,295	\$76,147		
	Suezmax Average Earnings +			\$95,314	\$52,754		
RAMAX		455.00	172.00	662,000	677.000		
	N.SEA>UKC • 80,000	155.00	173.00	\$63,898	\$77,090		
	BALT>UKC • 100,000	129.90	145.50	\$60,536	\$70,889	Time Charter 1 Year v.	
	CBS>USG • 70,000	194.00	145.00	\$57,194	\$38,225	\$27,000	\$21,500
	USG>UKC • 70,000	179.00	128.00	\$51,059	\$32,613		
	CBS>USG/USG>UKC-NSEA			\$86,415	\$57,695	# Ships Trading:	1,027
	MED>MED • 80,000	159.00	165.00	\$57,074	\$60,823	% Fleet on Order:	10%
	AG>SPORE • 80,000	134.00	124.00	\$37,425	\$34,353	Ships to Breakers:	No Activity
	· · · · · ·			\$60,139	\$54,926	Ships to breakers.	NO Activity
ANAMAX	Aframax Average Earnings ⁺			\$00,139	<i>\$54,920</i>		
		407.00	404 50	¢ 40 527	¢20.200	The charter the	2)((6)-()
	CBS>USAC(USG) • 50,000	187.00	181.50	\$40,527	\$39,368	Time Charter 1 Year v.	
	UKC>USG • 55,000	111.20	117.50	\$20,701	\$23,065	\$19,000	
	MED>USG • 55,000	110.00	113.00	\$21,160	\$22,552	# Ships Trading:	447
	ECU>USWC • 50,000	255.00	259.00	\$54,199	\$55,727	% Fleet on Order:	4%
	Panamax Average Earnings +			\$28,661	\$29,977	Ships to Breakers:	No Activity
R2							
	AG>JPN • 75,000	174.80	174.60	\$53,463	\$54,092	Time Charter 1 Year v.	3 Years (\$ day):
	AG>UKC	3.67m	3.75m	\$51,042	\$53,192	\$30,500	
	MED>JPN	3.58m	3.88m	\$45,230	\$51,036	# Ships Trading:	1,027^
	AG>UKC-MED>JPN-AG			\$56,594	\$61,053	% Fleet on Order:	10%^
	LR2 Average Earnings ⁺			\$54,506	\$56,410	Ships to Breakers:	No Activity
81							
	AG>JPN • 55,000	169.90	166.10	\$36,599	\$36,137	Time Charter 1 Year v.	3 Years (\$ day):
	AG>UKC	2.64m	2.65m	\$34,667	\$35,256	\$23,500	\$17,000
	UKC>WAFR • 60,000	201.10	197.90	\$52,539	\$52,058	# Ships Trading:	447 [#]
	AG>UKC/UKC>WAFR-AG			\$49,103	\$49,241	% Fleet on Order:	4%#
	LR1 Average Earnings ^{$+$}			\$42,851	\$42,689	Ships to Breakers:	47% No Activity [#]
				<i>Υ</i> 12,001	y-12,000	ompo to breakers.	NO ACTIVITY
IR	UKC>USAC • 37,000	177.00	176.00	\$25,334	\$25,415		
	USG>UKC • 38,000	128.50	103.00	\$25,554 \$16,917	\$25,415 \$11,908	Time Charter 1 Year v.	3 Voors (Class)
	-						
	USG>UKC/UKC>USAC(USG)			\$36,856	\$31,973	\$19,000	\$10,000
	UNCECOC (Deres Colorados)	644k	520k	\$27,864	\$19,993		
	USG>CBS (Pozos Colorados)		1.42m	\$32,722	\$24,028	# Ships Trading:	1,723
	USG>CHILE (Coronel)	1.74m	1.42111				
		1.74m 159.00	142.00	\$24,493	\$21,058	% Fleet on Order:	8%
	USG>CHILE (Coronel)				\$21,058 \$31,848	% Fleet on Order: Ships to Breakers:	
	USG>CHILE (Coronel) CBS>USAC(USG) • 38,000	159.00	142.00	\$24,493			
ANDYSIZE	USG>CHILE (Coronel) CBS>USAC(USG) • 38,000 WCIND>JPN-ROK>SPORE-WCIND	159.00	142.00 	\$24,493 \$31,184	\$31,848		
ANDYSIZE	USG>CHILE (Coronel) CBS>USAC(USG) • 38,000 WCIND>JPN-ROK>SPORE-WCIND	159.00	142.00 	\$24,493 \$31,184	\$31,848		No Activity
ANDYSIZE	USG>CHILE (Coronel) CBS>USAC(USG) • 38,000 WCIND>JPN-ROK>SPORE-WCIND <i>MR Average Earnings</i> ⁺ MED>EMED • 30,000	159.00 189.50	142.00 216.90	\$24,493 \$31,184 <i>\$29,884</i> \$31,104	\$31,848 <i>\$26,862</i> \$39,370	Ships to Breakers: Time Charter 1 Year v.	No Activity 3 Years (\$ day)
ANDYSIZE	USG>CHILE (Coronel) CBS>USAC(USG) • 38,000 WCIND>JPN-ROK>SPORE-WCIND MR Average Earnings* MED>EMED • 30,000 SPORE>JPN • 30,000	159.00 189.50 158.50	142.00 	\$24,493 \$31,184 <i>\$29,884</i> \$31,104 \$17,438	\$31,848 <i>\$26,862</i> \$39,370 \$19,620	Ships to Breakers: Time Charter 1 Year v. \$16,000	No Activity 3 Years (\$ day) : \$15,500
ANDYSIZE	USG>CHILE (Coronel) CBS>USAC(USG) • 38,000 WCIND>JPN-ROK>SPORE-WCIND <i>MR Average Earnings</i> ⁺ MED>EMED • 30,000	159.00 189.50	142.00 216.90	\$24,493 \$31,184 <i>\$29,884</i> \$31,104	\$31,848 <i>\$26,862</i> \$39,370	Ships to Breakers: Time Charter 1 Year v.	No Activity 3 Years (\$ day):

+ "Average Earnings" are weighted proportionally to each size class' worldwide market activity (may include routes not necessarily shown in this report).

^ Aframax and LR2 fleet numbers are combined for the purposes of these entries.

Panamax and LR1 fleet numbers are combined for the purposes of these entries.

THE WEEK IN CHARTS









US Crude Oil Stocks (EIA) WTD '20 v. CY '19

This Week: 455.4Mn.Bbls This Week '20 v. '19: +1.3%%

US Gasoline Demand (EIA) WTD '20 v. CY '19

This Week: 8.837Mn.Bbls/Day This Week '20 v. '19: -3.2%





Charles R. Weber Company, Inc. (Greenwich) Greenwich Office Park 3 Greenwich, CT, 06831 T: +1 203 629 2300 E: research@crweber.com W: www.crweber.com



Charles R. Weber Company, Inc. (Houston) 1001 McKinney Street, Suite 475 Houston, TX, 77002 T: +1 713 568 7233 E: research@crweber.com W: www.crweber.com