

# WEEK 46 - November 18, 2023

In an effort to prevent missing growth targets, China is contemplating an increase in infrastructure spending through additional debt at both the local and sovereign levels. While this policy response has been successful in the past, the current model presents challenges. The return potential on such projects appears limited, as many high-return endeavours have already been undertaken.

Although this approach may provide a short-lived boost to growth, the aftermath of increased leverage is anticipated to be more severe. With a high-leverage/low-return outlook, China faces a choice between short-term pain and a potential longer-term crisis. Currently, China is opting for the easier path, despite investor scepticism and caution, evident in indicators such as the negative Foreign Direct Investment print for October.

In October, China experienced its sharpest decline in home prices in eight years, intensifying concerns about the deepening property slump despite increased government efforts to stimulate demand. New home prices in 70 cities, excluding state-subsidised housing, dropped by 0.38%, marking the steepest decrease since February 2015. The downturn adds to the signs of a persistent housing crisis, with sales and property investment contracting. Even after stimulus measures were introduced since August, the sector continues to weigh on China's economic recovery. The Chinese property market's challenges have led to concerns and financial struggles for major developers.

While in the U.S., in a four-hour crucial discussion between President Biden and China's President Xi Jinping, substantial agreements were reached on curbing fentanyl production and re-establishing military-to-military communications, according to U.S. However, areas such as semiconductors, artificial intelligence, and China's involvement in the Gaza conflict showed limited progress.

Official Chinese summaries of President Xi's message at the APEC summit in San Francisco suggest a dual objective. Firstly, to express a willingness to engage with the U.S., potentially to attract foreign investment back to China. Secondly, to assert China's stance in defending Beijing's interests and reinforcing its global standing as a major power on par with the United States. The talks reflect a delicate balance between cooperation and asserting national interests in the complex U.S.-China relationship.

### Dry Bulk

Midweek saw BDI reached a three-week high. This increase was driven by higher rates in smaller vessel segments, offsetting weakness in the Capesize index. The overall index saw a gain of 7 points, reaching 1,662. On Friday, this climbed further, reaching 1,820 points, an almost 10.7% gain from last week's levels.

However, BCI experienced a decline of 33 points to 2,574, breaking a three-session winning streak. The average daily earnings also fell by US\$275 to US\$21,344. But then improved towards the week's closing when levels reached 2,763 points, an improvement of 6.7% W-O-W.

Iron ore futures saw advancement as market participants assessed property sectorrelated stimulus in China, the top consumer, and a decrease in shipments amid weaker demand for steel.

In contrast, BPI rose for the sixth consecutive session, adding 59 points to 1,607. Average daily earnings for Panamax vessels increased to US\$14,464.

#### <u>Capesize:</u>

Major mining companies in Australia and Brazil are expected to increase shipment volumes until the end of the year to achieve annual iron ore export targets, providing support to the market. On the other hand, indicators show that China's iron ore demand continues to show weakness. Daily average crude steel production fell continuously for the last ten days. Activity in the Pacific remains subdued, with most transactions occurring at levels like the previous week. Pacific r/v closes on Friday at US\$22,500 a day. In the North Atlantic, despite a relatively quiet appearance, positive sentiment persists due to a tightening supply of vessels. T/A climbs higher by around US\$ 29,000 regions a day.

### Panamax/Kamsarmax:

Boosted by the upward movement in Cape rates and increased demand for North American grain shipping, the market is on the rise. As Cape rates soared to double those of Panamaxes on most routes, some Cape cargoes shifted to Panamaxes, triggering a towing effect. In the Atlantic, the robust demand in the North Atlantic continues to drive a significant increase in rates as vessels are in high demand, particularly along the T/A route, where the supply of ships has tightened even further. Meanwhile, in the Pacific, most spot transactions have concluded, and the determination of shipowners to maintain strength has diminished. However, the existing demand-supply imbalance still prevails, supporting the upward trend. Pacific r/v close in the regions of US\$ 13,200's a day.

### <u>Supramax/Ultramax:</u>

Boosted by increased shipping demand from the US Gulf and Southeast Asia, the market is experiencing an upward turn. The North American grain season is gaining momentum, with China's purchase of US soybeans and improved conditions in the Mississippi River, leading to increased cargo inflows. The reinforcement of restrictions on Panama Canal transit has affected the smooth supply of USG-bound Panamax vessels, contributing to increased demand for Supramaxes. T/A witness levels close higher, around US\$19,400's a day, while F/H through East Asia were at US\$26,400's a day.

#### Handysize:

The Atlantic continues its positive trend, with North American grain leading the market rise and improved supply in South America due to increased freight contributing to the positive outlook. T/A levels were at US\$ 9,700's a day. In the Pacific, all major routes are experiencing a rise in new cargo arrivals, contributing to an upward trend. Inter-Pacific closed higher, around US\$ 6,250 a day.

| VESSEL NAME       | TYPE  | DWT      | YEAR | BUILT  | PRICE<br>(MILLION) USD | COMMENTS / BUYERS        |
|-------------------|-------|----------|------|--------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| AGIS              | CAPE  | 182,334  | 2023 | JAPAN  | 67.5                   | UNDISCLOSED              |
| ULTRA PANTHER     | KMAX  | 83,610   | 2008 | JAPAN  | 16.3                   | UNDISCLOSED              |
| AP LOVRIJENAC     | KMAX  | 82,000   | 2023 | CHINA  | 37.0                   | UNDISCLOSED              |
| XIN YU LONG       | КМАХ  | 80,226   | 2000 | TAIWAN | 8.85                   | CHINESE BUYERS           |
| THOR              | ΡΜΑΧ  | 76,838   | 2005 | JAPAN  | 11.9                   | RIPLEY SHIPPING<br>INDIA |
| LOWLANDS MIMOSA / |       | 63,939 ~ | 2018 | CEBU   | 25.5                   |                          |
| FJM GLORY         | UMAX  | 61,166   | 2019 | CHINA  | 29.0                   | UNDISCLOSED              |
| OCEAN DESTINY     | SMAX  | 58,786   | 2008 | JAPAN  | 13.8                   | PIONEER                  |
| ROYAL KNIGHT      | SMAX  | 58,721   | 2013 | JAPAN  | 19.5                   | GREEK BUYERS             |
| AFRICAN IBIS      | HANDY | 32,347   | 2004 | JAPAN  | 8.6                    | UNDISCLOSED              |

### Dry Bulk – S&P Report

## **Dry Bulk Values**

(Weekly)

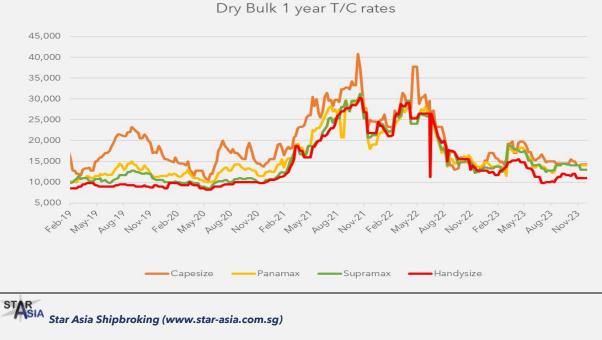
| ТҮРЕ                   | DWT     | NB CONTRACT | NB PROMPT<br>DELIVERY    | 5 YEARS | 10 YEARS | 15 YEARS |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------------------|---------|----------|----------|--|--|--|
| CAPE                   | 180,000 | 65          | 66                       | 49      | 29       | 14       |  |  |  |
| KAMSARMAX              | 82,000  | 35          | 37                       | 32      | 23       | 8        |  |  |  |
| SUPRAMAX               | 56,000  | 33          | 36                       | 29      | 19       | 7        |  |  |  |
| HANDY                  | 38,000  | 30          | 32                       | 25      | 17       | 6        |  |  |  |
| *(amount in USD millio | on)     |             | *(amount in USD million) |         |          |          |  |  |  |

# Baltic Exchange Dry Bulk Indices

| INDICES | CURRENT | LAST WEEK | LAST YEAR | W-O-W CHANGE | Y-O-Y CHANGE |
|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| BDI     | 1,820   | 1,643     | 1,189     | +10.77%      | +53.07%      |
| BCI     | 2,763   | 2,589     | 1,122     | +6.72%       | +146.26%     |
| BPI     | 1,874   | 1,530     | 1,594     | +22.48%      | +17.57%      |
| BSI     | 1,205   | 1,125     | 1,170     | +7.11%       | +2.99%       |
| BHSI    | 599     | 594       | 763       | +0.84%       | -21.49%      |

# Bulker 12 months T/C rates average (in USD/day)

| TYPE      | DWT     | CURRENT | LAST WEEK | LAST YEAR | W-O-W CHANGE | Y-O-Y CHANGE |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| CAPESIZE  | 180,000 | 15,000  | 14,500    | 12,500    | +3.45%       | +20.00%      |
| PANAMAX   | 75,000  | 13,650  | 12,250    | 13,850    | +11.43%      | -1.44%       |
| SUPRAMAX  | 58,000  | 11,875  | 11,500    | 12,500    | +3.26%       | -5.00%       |
| HANDYSIZE | 38,000  | 11,000  | 10,750    | 10,500    | +2.33%       | +4.76%       |



# <u>Tankers</u>

Oil prices faced a decline following an increase in US inventories, contributing to concerns about weakened demand and stable supplies. West Texas Intermediate reached US\$76 per barrel, reflecting a 2% loss in the previous session, while Brent traded below US\$81. The EIA's Wednesday report revealed a surge in crude stockpiles, reaching the highest level since August, with a notable build at the critical hub in Cushing, Oklahoma.

Oil trading has experienced fluctuations, dropping to a three-month low last week before a modest recovery. The IEA's statement on Tuesday suggested that production growth would prevent markets from tightening as expected this quarter. Despite OPEC emphasising robust demand trends, there's anticipation that Saudi Arabia will extend a supply cut.

Signs of softness are visible in the oil futures curve, with the spread between WTI's two nearest contracts returning to contango, signalling loosening conditions. Additionally, President Biden's energy security adviser, Amos Hochstein, affirmed the US commitment to enforcing sanctions on over 1 million BPD of oil exports from Iran amid Middle East conflicts. A potential resurgence of inflows from Venezuela, following eased US curbs, might offset supply losses, exemplified by Vitol Group chartering a tanker for loading oil from the Latin American nation.

The positive momentum in VLCC rates, triggered by recent conflicts, has spilt into November, extending to other tanker segments. The Atlantic region has shown resilience, driven by an uptick in oil exports. Expectations of a robust conclusion to the year and seasonal factors contributed to the optimistic outlook.

#### VLCC:

MEG/China bounced back this week to WS74. The Atlantic region showed relative activity with cargo influx from the U.S. and Brazil in the first half of the week. WAFR/China saw levels in the region of WS72. However, expectations of increased cargo in late November due to winter demand may limit further declines. Overall, a stabilised market is anticipated.

#### Suezmax:

A weekly decline in West Africa to Europe route is observed due to reduced cargo influx from Nigeria and an increased supply of ships in the Atlantic region, absorbing highertier vessels. 130,000 MT fell 7 points to WS98. However, the impact might be mitigated to some extent by the strength in the Med Aframax market. Overall, a slightly stabilising market is expected.

#### <u>Aframax:</u>

Despite limited cargo inflows, the persistent shortage of ship supply in the Suez East region continues, leading to a tight market situation in the MEG/Singapore segment. In the Atlantic, rates pushed lower this week, with 70,000mt EC Mexico/USG falling 29 points to WS252.

#### <u>Clean:</u>

MR: Pressure on ship supply in NE Asia led to a decline in freight rates for the KOR/SGP route. However, increased activity from an influx of oil demand for winter contributed to a short-term rebound.

L.R.: Due to reduced naphtha volumes and increased ship supply in the Suez East, MEG/Japan saw a weekly decline in the WS rate. TC5 fell to WS132. LR2s also witnessed the same in MEG as TC1 saw a further decline to WS123.

| VESSEL NAME   | TYPE           | DWT              | YEAR           | BUILT    | PRICE<br>(MILLION) USD                       | COMMENTS /<br>BUYERS |
|---|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------|--|----------------------|
| SKS DOKKA / SKS DELTA<br>/ SKS DOURO /<br>SKS DEE / SKS<br>DONGGANG / SKS<br>DODA /SKS DEMINI /<br>SKS DOYLES | AFRA           | 119,456          | 2010 ~<br>2012 | S. KOREA | 239.0 EN BLOC<br>(WITH 5.5 MIL<br>IN SHARES) | torm a/s             |
| CONCORD EXPRESS   | AFRA           | 111,920          | 2003           | S. KOREA | 26.0   | UAE BUYERS           |
| TORM MARINA   | AFRA           | 109,672          | 2007           | CHINA    | 36.5   | UNDISCLOSED          |
| TORM ESTRID /<br>TORM ISMINI  | LR1            | 74,999           | 2004           | S. KOREA | 20.0 EACH                                    | CHINESE BUYERS       |
| SEAWYS LORAIN   | LR1            | 51,218           | 2008           | S. KOREA | 24.5   | UNDISCLOSED          |
| ROMOE MAERSK /<br>ROBERT MAERSK   | MR             | 34,806           | 2003           | CHINA    | 10.0 EACH                                    | UNDISCLOSED          |
| MONAX /<br>MARMOTAS   | PROD /<br>CHEM | 20,762<br>19,953 | 2005           | JAPAN    | 13.5 EACH<br>(SS)                            | UNDISCLOSED          |
| BRO DEVELOPER   | PROD /<br>CHEM | 14,737           | 2007           | CHINA    | 10.0   | HAWKS                |

# Tankers S&P Report

# **Baltic Exchange Tanker Indices**

| INDICES | CURRENT | LAST WEEK | LAST YEAR | W-O-W CHANGE | Y-O-Y CHANGE |
|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| BDTI    | 1,336   | 1,404     | 2,365     | -4.84%       | -43.51%      |
| BCTI    | 806     | 798       | 1,461     | +1.00%       | -44.83%      |

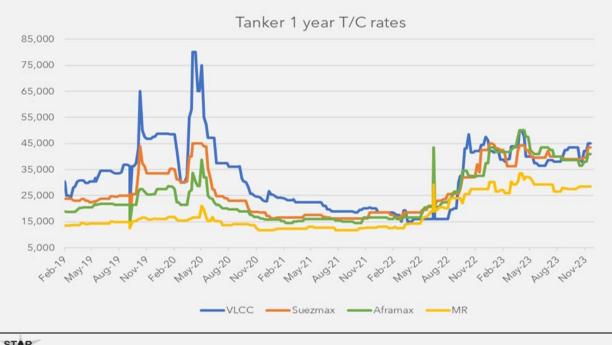
### **Tankers Values**

(Weekly)

| ТҮРЕ                   | DWT                      | NB CONTRACT | NB PROMPT<br>DELIVERY | 5 YEARS | 10 YEARS | 15 YEARS |  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|----------|--|
| VLCC                   | 310,000                  | 128         | 125                   | 98      | 74       | 48       |  |
| SUEZMAX                | 160,000                  | 85          | 95                    | 78      | 61       | 34       |  |
| AFRAMAX                | 115,000                  | 69          | 83                    | 70      | 57       | 28       |  |
| PANAMAX-LR1            | 73,000                   | 57          | 63                    | 51      | 41       | 23       |  |
| MR TANKER              | 51,000                   | 47          | 51                    | 43      | 33       | 19       |  |
| *(amount in USD millio | *(amount in USD million) |             |                       |         |          |          |  |

# Tanker 12 months T/C rates average (in USD/day

| TYPE    | DWT     | CURRENT | LAST WEEK | LAST YEAR | W-O-W CHANGE | Y-O-Y CHANGE |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| VLCC    | 310,000 | 45,750  | 45,750    | 44,500    | 0            | +2.81%       |
| SUEZMAX | 150,000 | 43,500  | 43,500    | 42,500    | 0            | +2.35%       |
| AFRAMAX | 110,000 | 41,000  | 41,000    | 32,500    | 0            | +26.15%      |
| LR1     | 74,000  | 31,750  | 31,750    | 37,500    | 0            | -15.33%      |
| MR      | 47,000  | 26,000  | 26,000    | 27,500    | 0            | -5.45%       |



### Containers

This week witnessed a further decline in container spot rates, as the overall SCFI spot box freight rate index dropped by 2.9% w-o-w, reaching 1,000 points. The decline was particularly pronounced on the SCFI Shanghai-USWC route, experiencing an 8% w-o-w decrease and settling at US\$1,696/FEU. This marks a mere 4% increase from the start of 2020. Simultaneously, the rate on the SCFI Shanghai-N.Europe route also decreased by 2% week-on-week, reaching US\$707/TEU, reflecting a significant 33% decrease year-todate.

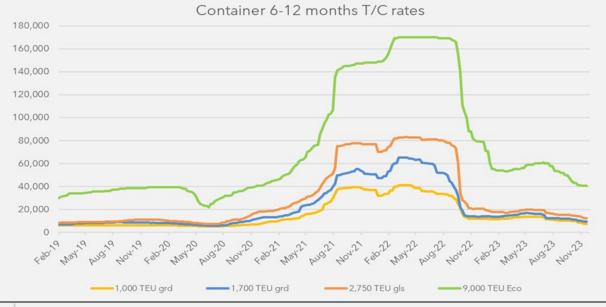
# **Containers S&P Report**

| VESSEL NAME          | TYPE | TEU | YEAR | BUILT | PRICE<br>(MILLION) USD | COMMENTS /<br>BUYERS |
|----------------------|------|-----|------|-------|------------------------|----------------------|
| NO NEW SALE REPORTED |      |     |      |       |                        |                      |

### **Containers Values**

(Weekly)

| CONTAINERS<br>(BY TEU) | GEARED /<br>GEARLESS     | NB<br>CONTRACT | NB PROMPT<br>DELIVERY | 5 YEARS | 10 YEARS | 20 YEARS |  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|----------|--|
| 900 - 1,200            | Geared                   | 24             | 23                    | 16      | 9        | 7        |  |
| 1,600 - 1,800          | Geared                   | 29             | 26                    | 21      | 15       | 11       |  |
| 2,700 - 2,900          | Gearless                 | 41             | 37                    | 29      | 17       | 14       |  |
| 5,500 - 7,000          | Gearless                 | 93             | 78                    | 66      | 39       | N/A      |  |
| *(amount in USD milli  | *(amount in USD million) |                |                       |         |          |          |  |





STARSIA Star Asia Shipbroking (www.star-asia.com.sg)

# Ship Recycling Market Snapshot

| DESTINATION  | TANKERS   | BULKERS   | MPP/<br>GENERAL CARGO | CONTAINERS | SENTIMENTS /<br>WEEKLY FUTURE<br>TREND |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|--|
| ALANG (WC INDIA)   | 530 ~ 540 | 520 ~ 530 | 520 ~ 530             | 540 ~ 550  |  |
| *CHATTOGRAM,<br>BANGLADESH   | 510 ~520  | 500 ~ 510 | 490 ~ 500             | 520 ~ 530  | STABLE /                               |
| **GADDANI,<br>PAKISTAN   | 520 ~ 530 | 510 ~ 520 | 500 ~ 510             | 520 ~ 530  |  |
| <b>TURKEY</b><br>*For Non-EU ships. For E.U.<br>Ship, the prices are about<br>US\$20-30/ton less | 320 ~ 330 | 310 ~ 320 | 300 ~ 310             | 330 ~ 340  |  |

- All prices are USD per light displacement tonnage in the long ton.
- The prices reported are net prices offered by the recycling yards.
- Prices quoted are basis simple Japanese / Korean-built tonnages trading units. Premiums are paid on top of the above-quoted prices based on quality & quality of Spares, Non-Fe., bunkers, cargo history, and maintenance.
- \* Prices are subject to the availability of the Letters of Credit. Preference for smaller-sized ships and case to case buying.
- \*\* Limited recyclers and case-to-case buying only due to Letters of Credit restrictions.

# 5-Year Ship Recycling Average Historical Prices

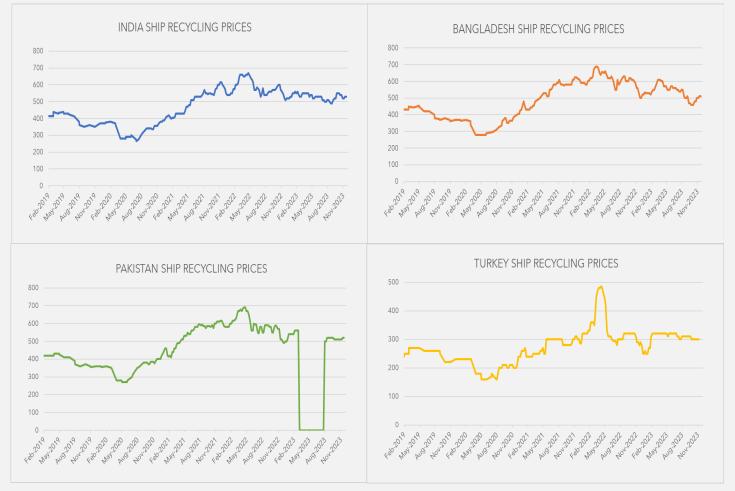
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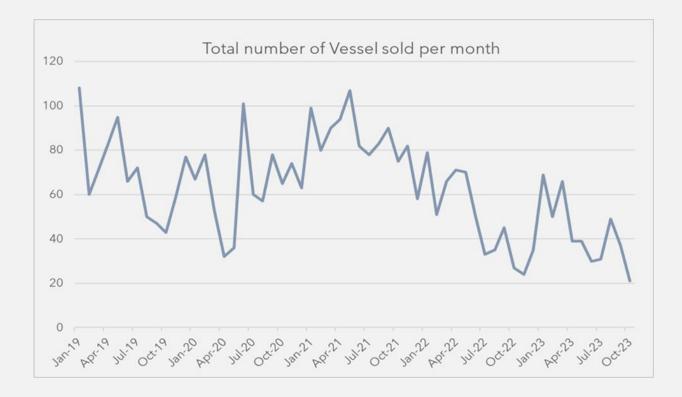
| DESTINATION            | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ALANG, INDIA           | 445  | 370  | 375  | 590  | 560  |
| CHATTOGRAM, BANGLADESH | 440  | 365  | 380  | 620  | 570  |
| GADDANI, PAKISTAN      | 430  | 355  | 380  | 620  | 500  |
| ALIAGA, TURKEY         | 280  | 240  | 205  | 330  | 300  |

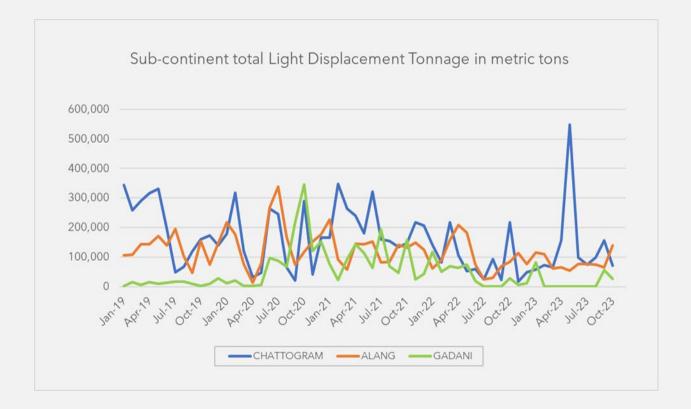
# Ships Sold for Recycling

| VESSEL NAME            | ldt / mt | YEAR / BUILT   | TYPE      | PRICE<br>(US\$/LDT) | COMMENTS                          |
|------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SAMC EDDIE             | 24,181   | 2002 / TAIWAN  | BULKER    | 505                 | AS IS WHERE IS SINGAPORE          |
| XIN FENG GUANG<br>ZHOU | 8,895    | 1994 / S.KOREA | CONTAINER | 495                 | AS IS WHERE IS ZHOUSHAN,<br>CHINA |
| DAYTONA DYNAMIC        | 6,058    | 1990 / JAPAN   | BULKER    | 510                 | DELIVERED ALANG                   |
| MTT TANJUNG<br>MANIS   | 5,467    | 1999 / TURKEY  | CONTAINER | 520                 | AS IS PORT KLANG,<br>MALAYSIA     |
| MTT TAWAU              | 5,730    | 1997 / TURKEY  | CONTAINER | 520                 | AS IS PORT KLANG,<br>MALAYSIA     |

# **Recycling Ships Price Trend**







# <u>Insight</u>

It was a bleak market this week in the recycling segment with a lack of activity in the subcontinent. With the Diwali festivities starting, many buyers did not actively seek to buy, although there was nothing significant on offer either this week.

This week, after prolonged negotiations, Chinese-owned Cape "SAMC Eddie" built in 2002, Taiwan weighing 24,181 tons and finally managed to obtain a highly speculative price of US\$505/ton basis delivery as is Singapore for January 2024 delivery.

The reported recent sales stand as a testament to the current market strength, indicating a positive trend. However, the authenticity of this outlook remains subject to analysis in the months ahead, as both sales involve forward deliveries. The unfolding developments in the coming months will serve as a confirmation, determining whether these transactions prove to be accurate indicators of market resilience or potentially raise concerns of a false call.

On the end-of-life ship supply front, once again, the markets are witnessing a dearth of ships as the freight rates improve across all segments.

#### <u>Alang, India</u>

As the festive week unfolds in Alang, markets are currently in a temporary break, set to recommence activities on Monday, November 20.

Notably, post-Diwali, a traditional uptick has been observed in domestic ship scrap prices, hinting at a positive trajectory. It's worth noting that the genuine market pricing dynamics are anticipated to fully resume next week.

The prevailing sentiments among Alang recyclers are notably optimistic, a sentiment likely bolstered by recent positive trends in imported ferrous scrap prices and notable northward movement in iron ore pricing.

This collective outlook sets the stage for dynamic and potentially lucrative market conditions in the upcoming week.

It will be interesting to see what is stored for the markets post Diwali as a vast majority are of the belief that the markets have bottomed out and a rebound is expected.

| VESSEL NAME | ТҮРЕ              | LDT    | ARRIVAL    | BEACHING   |
|-------------|-------------------|--------|------------|------------|
| QUALITY     | LIVESTOCK CARRIER | 3,700  | 18.11.2023 | AWAITING   |
| SAGNA       | TANKER            | 2,065  | 11.11.2023 | AWAITING   |
| MSC CHIARA  | CONTAINER         | 14,305 | 17.11.2023 | 18.11.2023 |
| YUAN        | GENERAL CARGO     | 3,331  | 10.11.2023 | 17.11.2023 |
| ONE DESTINY | BULKER            | 7,698  | 07.11.2023 | 13.11.2023 |
| GREAT       | BULKER            | 9,759  | 08.11.2023 | 12.11.2023 |
| MAS MULIA   | PIPE LAY BARGE    | 5,601  | 08.11.2023 | 12.11.2023 |
| ANGEL A     | GENERAL CARGO     | 1,391  | 08.11.2023 | 11.11.2023 |

### Anchorage & Beaching Position (November 2023)

#### Chattogram, Bangladesh

Bangladesh experiences yet another subdued week in its recycling sector, struggling with persistent challenges stemming from weakened demand and foreign exchange issues.

Bangladesh is dealing with significant pressure on key macroeconomic indicators as its foreign exchange reserves continue to deplete. Simultaneously, the impending national election has heightened tensions in the political environment.

Ships sold in the past are making their way to the Chattogram anchorage, but the waiting period has become a significant hurdle lately due to delays in obtaining the needed LCs followed by payments.

| Allehere      | Anonorage a beaching resident (November 2020) |        |            |            |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|---|--------|------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| VESSEL NAME   | TYPE  | LDT    | ARRIVAL    | BEACHING   |  |  |  |  |
| JIN YUAN XING | BULKER  | 11,900 | 17.11.2023 | AWAITING   |  |  |  |  |
| LOGGERHEAD    | TANKER  | 1,088  | 11.11.2023 | AWAITING   |  |  |  |  |
| SIGHTER       | PCTC  | 11,238 | 06.11.2023 | 15.11.2023 |  |  |  |  |
| YANGO         | CONTAINER                                     | 5,866  | 08.11.2023 | 14.11.2023 |  |  |  |  |
| KOKURYU MARU  | RORO  | 2,473  | 05.11.2023 | 14.11.2023 |  |  |  |  |
| VENTURA       | TANKER  | 16,810 | 27.10.2023 | 03.11.2023 |  |  |  |  |

#### Anchorage & Beaching Position (November 2023)

#### <u>Gadani, Pakistan</u>

The situation in Pakistan has seen not much change from last week.

The country has been quiet on all fronts as they await elections on February 8 next year, which will be a very crucial factor for deciding the fate of the ailing economy.

Ship recyclers possessing the capability to open LCs are facing a directive from their banks stipulating that payments associated with these LCs can only be executed in January 2024. This directive prompts recyclers to exercise caution and take necessary precautions when engaging in time sensitive deals.

This directive from banks introduces a significant consideration for ship recyclers, urging them to navigate their dealings and adjust the payment schedule imposed.

In June, the IMF granted Pakistan a nine-month standby arrangement (SBA) to support its economic stabilisation program, approving an immediate US\$1.2 billion disbursement with the rest phased over the program's duration. The first review of the SBA concluded on Nov 10, and the IMF team led by Nathan Porter reached a staff-level agreement. Upon the Executive Board's approval, around US\$700 million will be disbursed, bringing the total to nearly US\$1.9 billion.

Despite a nascent recovery, challenges remain, such as external risks and the need for ongoing efforts to build resilience. Key SBA priorities include strengthening macroeconomic sustainability and setting conditions for balanced growth.

#### Anchorage & Beaching Position (November 2023)

| VESSEL NAME | TYPE   | LDT    | ARRIVAL    | BEACHING   |
|-------------|--------|--------|------------|------------|
| VENTURA     | TANKER | 16,810 | 28.10.2023 | 02.11.2023 |

#### <u>Aliaga, Turkey</u>

Turkish domestic scrap prices are on an upward trajectory this week, driven by robust activity. All Turkish mills have increased their domestic scrap buying quotes, signalling strong business activity with gradual price hikes.

Despite a slightly weaker business environment in the import sector, suppliers are maintaining high price targets, convinced that imported scrap prices will remain stable. European suppliers are holding firm at approximately US\$380/tonne CFR Turkey for HMS 1 & 2 80:20, anticipating increased costs for Turkish mills due to a strengthening euro against the dollar. Diverging domestic market trends are observed, with slower demand in some regions contrasted by moderate activity in southern Turkey, where reconstruction efforts post-earthquake progress.

Turkish shipbreaking scrap prices have risen to US\$370-372/t delivered, reflecting a weekly increase from US\$360/ton.

#### BEACHING TIDE DATES 2023

Chattogram, Bangladesh : 25 ~ 28 November | 12 ~ 15 December

Alang, India

: 25 November ~ 2 December | 11 ~ 19 December

| BUNKER PRICES (USD/TON) |  |     |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| PORTS                   | PORTS VLSFO (0.5%) IFO380 CST MGO (0.1%) |     |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SINGAPORE               | 683                                      | 464 | 806 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HONG KONG               | 678                                      | 491 | 790 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FUJAIRAH                | 667                                      | 444 | 924 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ROTTERDAM               | 586                                      | 484 | 811 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HOUSTON                 | 574                                      | 484 | 837 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| EXCHANGE RATES         |                           |                           |                |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| CURRENCY               | 17 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER | 10 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER | W-O-W % CHANGE |  |  |  |  |  |
| USD / CNY (CHINA)      | 7.23                      | 7.27                      | +0.55%         |  |  |  |  |  |
| USD / BDT (BANGLADESH) | 110.75                    | 110.23                    | -0.47%         |  |  |  |  |  |
| USD / INR (INDIA)      | 83.26                     | 83.32                     | +0.07%         |  |  |  |  |  |
| USD / PKR (PAKISTAN)   | 286.59                    | 287.47                    | +0.31%         |  |  |  |  |  |
| USD / TRY (TURKEY)     | 28.71                     | 28.56                     | -0.53%         |  |  |  |  |  |

# Commodities Insight

The seaborne **iron ore** market has surpassed US\$130 per ton this week. Despite quiet fundamentals, the recent meeting between US President Biden and China's President Xi Jinping has injected contrasting expectations into the market.

Dalian Commodity Exchange (DCE), January 2024, iron ore increased by CNY 1 per ton (US\$0.13 per ton) to CNY 962 per ton (US\$132.6 per ton). On the Singapore Exchange, December 62% Fe futures and 65% Fe futures reached US\$128.18 per ton and US\$140.52 per ton. The same contract for 58% Fe futures decreased to US\$114.32 per ton.

Upbeat economic indicators from China provided a boost to sentiment in the **base metals** market, with copper leading the sector following a 4.6% year-on-year increase in industrial output in October. The retail sector also demonstrated strength, registering a 7.6% Y-O-Y growth during the same month, coinciding with the week-long Golden Week holidays and increased public travel.

Noteworthy is Beijing's ongoing commitment to economic support, evident in the People's Bank of China injecting the highest amount of cash into the financial system since late 2016.

However, amidst the positive data, there were signs of weakness. The real estate sector continued to face challenges, with home sales and property investment contracting. Despite this concern, traders in the iron ore market appeared unfazed, with futures sustaining recent gains.

Highlighting potential hurdles for the steelmaking raw material, Chinese steel production reached an 11-month low of 79 million tons in October, reflecting a 0.8% year-on-year decline. This dip in production serves as a further indicator of the challenges faced by the industry.

| COMMODITY                                   | SIZE / GRADE                       | THIS WEEK<br>USD / MT | W-O-W   | Y-O-Y    | LAST<br>WEEK<br>USD / MT | LAST<br>YEAR<br>USD / MT |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Iron Ore Fines, CNF<br>Rizhao, China        | Fines, Fe 62%<br>(Aust. Origin)    | 132                   | + 3.12% | +50%     | 128                      | 88                       |
| Iron Ore Fines,<br>C.N.F. Qingdao,<br>China | Fines, Fe 62.5%<br>(Brazil Origin) | 134                   | +3.07%  | + 47.25% | 130                      | 91                       |

#### Iron Ore





# HMS 1/2 & Tangshan Billet

#### Industrial Metal Rates

| INDEX                 | UNITS     | PRICE     | CHANGE  | %CHANGE | CONTRACT |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|
| Copper (Comex)        | USD / Ib. | 374.85    | +1.15   | +0.31%  | Mar 2024 |
| 3Mo Copper (L.M.E.)   | USD / MT  | 8,220.00  | -45.50  | -0.55%  | N/A      |
| 3Mo Aluminum (L.M.E.) | USD / MT  | 2,215.50  | -17.00  | -0.76%  | N/A      |
| 3Mo Zinc (L.M.E.)     | USD / MT  | 2,576.00  | -80.00  | -3.01%  | N/A      |
| 3Mo Tin (L.M.E.)      | USD / MT  | 25,193.00 | -133.00 | -0.53%  | N/A      |

#### Crude Oil & Natural Gas Rates

| INDEX                 | UNITS       | PRICE     | CHANGE    | %CHANGE | CONTRACT |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| WTI Crude Oil (Nymex) | USD / bbl.  | 74.24     | +1.34     | +1.84%  | Dec 2023 |
| Brent Crude (I.C.E.)  | USD / bbl.  | 78.94     | +1.52     | +1.96%  | Jan 2024 |
| Crude Oil (Tokyo)     | J.P.Y. / kl | 77,910.00 | -1,090.00 | -1.38%  | Nov 2023 |
| Natural Gas (Nymex)   | USD / MMBtu | 2.95      | -0.11     | -3.69%  | Dec 2023 |

Note: all rates as at C.O.B. London time November 17, 2023



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