

Seanergy confirms ER capes addition

Greek bulker owner expands its fleet as it logs a wider loss in the second quarter.
September 29th, 2016 12:27 GMT by Nick Roumpis

Seanergy Maritime Corp has confirmed the acquisition of two capesizes for \$20.75m each.

As TradeWinds reported last week, the Greek bulker owner snapped up the 178,838-dwt E.R. Bavaria and the 178,978-dwt E.R. Bayern (both built 2010) from ER Schiffahrt.

Seanergy said it would take delivery of two 2010-built vessels in mid-November and early January 2017.

It added that it will fund the \$41.5m deal through secured loans and financing arrangements with the company's sponsor Claudia Restis.

Stamatis Tsantanis, chief executive of Seanergy, said: "The acquisition price compares very favourably with similar secondhand capesize vessels, which have averaged approximately \$35m over the past five years."

Seanergy had been very vocal about its acquisition plans since it acquired seven bulkers in a \$180m deal with the Restis family in August 2015.

It now controls a fleet of 10 vessels, comprising eight capesizes and two supramaxes.

Bigger loss in the second quarter

Seanergy's additions came at the same time as the company reported a net loss of \$5.13m in the second quarter, against red ink of \$1m a year earlier.

Its revenue for the period climbed from \$1.76m to \$8.16m thanks to the expanded fleet.

Tsantanis added: "Over the first six months of 2016 the financial performance of Seanergy has been negatively affected by the historic low dry bulk charter market, especially in the first quarter of the year.

"Baltic freight indices show that the average daily rates for capesizes over the first six months of 2016 fell by 22% when compared to the same period of 2015."

Seanergy's capesizes earned a time charter equivalent (TCE) rate of \$4,267, compared to the Baltic Capesize Index average of \$3,570.