

Star Bulk Carriers Corp.
Form 6-K
March 17, 2014

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13A-16 OR 15D-16 OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the month of March 2014

Commission File Number: 001-33869

STAR BULK CARRIERS CORP.
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Star Bulk Carriers Corp.
c/o Star Bulk Management Inc.
40 Agiou Konstantinou Street,
15124 Maroussi,
Athens, Greece
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F [X] Form 40-F []

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Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): ☐ .

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): ☐ .

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's "home country"), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM 6-K REPORT

Attached as Exhibit 1 is a copy of the press release of Star Bulk Carriers Corp. (the Company) dated March 17, 2014: Star Bulk Announces the Acquisition of Strategic Minority Stake in Interchart Shipping Inc.

This report on Form 6-K, except for the section entitled Spyros Capralos, President and Chief Executive Officer of Star Bulk, commented , is hereby incorporated by reference into the Company s registration statements on Form F-3 (File No. 333-180674) and Form F-3 (File No. 333-191135) that were each filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and each with an effective date of July 17, 2012 and November 12, 2013, respectively.

Exhibit 1

STAR BULK ANNOUNCES THE ACQUISITION OF STRATEGIC MINORITY STAKE IN INTERCHART SHIPPING INC

ATHENS, GREECE, March 17, 2014 Star Bulk Carriers Corp. (the "Company" or "Star Bulk") (Nasdaq: SBLK), a global shipping company focusing on the transportation of dry bulk cargoes, announced today that on February 25, 2014, it acquired 33% of the total outstanding common stock of Interchart Shipping Inc. (Interchart), a Liberian company which acts as chartering broker to our fleet for total consideration of \$400,000 consisting of \$200,000 in cash and 22,598 restricted common shares of Star Bulk, to be issued on March 31, 2014. Interchart was founded in 1986 and under the same management since 2003, has performed over 640 fixtures. It maintains offices in Athens, Greece and employs 6 senior brokers. The ownership interest was purchased from an entity affiliated with family members of our Chairman, including our director Ms. Pappas.

Also on February 25, 2014, the Company entered into a services agreement (the Services Agreement), with Interchart for chartering, brokering and commercial services for our vessels for an annual fee of \$685,000. This fee is adjustable for changes in our fleet pursuant to the terms of the Services Agreement. Under the Services Agreement, all previously agreed upon brokerage commissions due to Interchart are canceled retroactively from January 1, 2014.

Spyros Capralos, President and Chief Executive Officer of Star Bulk, commented: *This transaction is consistent with our strategy to enhance our in - house vessel management capabilities and reduce our costs from operations. After having made substantial enhancements to our technical ship management capabilities, we are now moving forward with a focus on expanding the Company s capabilities with the commercial management of vessels. We believe this transaction merges the interests of Interchart and the Company and benefits our shareholders.*

About Star Bulk

Star Bulk is a global shipping company providing worldwide seaborne transportation solutions in the dry bulk sector. Star Bulk's vessels transport major bulks, which include iron ore, coal and grain and minor bulks which include bauxite, fertilizers and steel products. Star Bulk was incorporated in the Marshall Islands on December 13, 2006 and maintains executive offices in Athens, Greece. Its common stock trades on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "SBLK". Star Bulk owns a fleet of seventeen dry bulk carriers, consisting of five Capesize, two Post Panamax, two Ultramax and eight Supramax dry bulk vessels with a combined cargo carrying capacity of 1,610,935 deadweight

tons and an average age of approximately 8.9 years. In addition, Star Bulk provides vessel management services to fourteen third party dry bulk vessels, including five Capesize, two Post Panamax, two Kamsarmax, two Panamax and three Supramax vessels with a combined cargo carrying capacity of 1,569,255 deadweight tons. The Company has also entered into agreements for the construction of eleven fuel efficient dry bulk vessels, five Newcastlemax vessels, two Capesize vessels and four Ultramax vessels, with a combined cargo carrying capacity of 1,643,000 deadweight tons. All of the newbuilding vessels are expected to be delivered during 2015 and early 2016.

Forward-Looking Statements

Matters discussed in this press release may constitute forward-looking statements. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides safe harbor protections for forward-looking statements in order to encourage companies to provide prospective information about their business. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions and other statements, which are other than statements of historical facts.

The Company desires to take advantage of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and is including this cautionary statement in connection with this safe harbor legislation. The words believe, anticipate, intends, estimate, forecast, project, plan, potential, may, should, expect, pending identify forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements in this press release are based upon various assumptions, many of which are based, in turn, upon further assumptions, including without limitation, examination by the Company's management of historical operating trends, data contained in its records and other data available from third parties. Although the Company believes that these assumptions were reasonable when made, because these assumptions are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies which are difficult or impossible to predict and are beyond the Company's control, the Company cannot assure you that it will achieve or accomplish these expectations, beliefs or projections.

In addition to these important factors, other important factors that, in the Company's view, could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include the strength of world economies and currencies, general market conditions, including fluctuations in charter rates and vessel values, changes in demand for dry bulk shipping capacity, changes in the Company's operating expenses, including bunker prices, drydocking and insurance costs, the market for the Company's vessels, availability of financing and refinancing, changes in governmental rules and regulations or actions taken by regulatory authorities, potential liability from pending or future litigation, general domestic and international political conditions, potential disruption of shipping routes due to accidents or political events, vessels breakdowns and instances of off-hires and other factors. Please see our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for a more complete discussion of these and other risks and uncertainties. The information set forth herein speaks only as of the date hereof, and the Company disclaims any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of developments occurring after the date of this communication.

Contacts:

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CFO

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

STAR BULK CARRIERS CORP.
(Registrant)

Date: March 17, 2014

By: **/s/ SPYROS CAPRALOS**
Name: **Spyros Capralos**
Title: **Chief Executive Officer and President**