

FRONTLINE LTD /  
Form 20-F  
March 16, 2017

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC. 20549

FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

OR

SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF  
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of event requiring this shell company report \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 001-16601

Frontline Ltd.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Bermuda

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

Par-la-Ville Place, 14 Par-la-Ville Road, Hamilton, HM 08, Bermuda

(Address of principal executive offices)

Georgina Sousa, Telephone: (1) 441 295 6935, Facsimile: (1) 441 295 3494,

Par-la-Ville Place, 14 Par-la-Ville Road, Hamilton, HM 08, Bermuda

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
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Ordinary Shares, Par Value \$1.00 Per Share	New York Stock Exchange
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Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

Ordinary Shares, Par Value \$1.00 Per Share

(Title of Class)

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

169,809,324 Ordinary Shares, Par Value \$1.00 Per Share

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes

No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

U.S. GAAP  International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board  Other

If "Other" has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow:

Item 17  Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

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## CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Matters discussed in this annual report and the documents incorporated by reference may constitute forward-looking statements. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides safe harbor protections for forward-looking statements, which 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.

Frontline Ltd. and its subsidiaries, or 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. This annual report and any other written or oral statements made by us or on our behalf may include forward-looking statements, which reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance, and are not intended to give any assurance as to future results. When used in this documents, the words "believe," "anticipate," "intend," "estimate," "forecast," "project," "plan," "potential," "will," "may," "should," "expect" and similar expressions, terms or phrases may identify forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements in this annual report are based upon various assumptions, including without limitation, management's examination of historical operating trends, data contained in our records and data available from third parties. Although we believe 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 our control, we cannot assure you that we will achieve or accomplish these expectations, beliefs or projections. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

In addition to these important factors and matters discussed elsewhere herein and in the documents incorporated by reference herein, important factors that, in our view, could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include the strength of world economies, fluctuations in currencies and interest rates, general market conditions, including fluctuations in charter hire rates and vessel values, changes in the supply and demand for vessels comparable to ours, changes in world wide oil production and consumption and storage, 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, our ability to obtain financing and comply with the restrictions and other covenants in our financing arrangements, availability of skilled workers and the related labor costs, compliance with governmental, tax, environmental and safety regulation, any non-compliance with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (FCPA) or other applicable regulations relating to bribery, general economic conditions and conditions in the oil industry, effects of new products and new technology in our industry, the failure of counter parties to fully perform their contracts with us, our dependence on key personnel, adequacy of insurance coverage, our ability to obtain indemnities from customers, changes in laws, treaties or regulations, the volatility of the price of our ordinary shares; our incorporation under the laws of Bermuda and the different rights to relief that may be available compared to other countries, including the United States, 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, political events or acts by terrorists, and other important factors described from time to time in the reports filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission or Commission.

We caution readers of this annual report not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of their dates. These forward looking statements are not guarantees of our future performance, and actual results and future developments may vary materially from those projected in the forward looking statements. Please see our Risk Factors in Item 3 of this annual report for a more complete discussion of these and other risks and uncertainties.



## PART I

### ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS

Not applicable.

### ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Not applicable.

### ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION

Throughout this annual report, the "Company," "we," "us" and "our" all refer to Frontline Ltd. and its subsidiaries. We use the term deadweight ton, or dwt, in describing the size of vessels. Dwt, expressed in metric tons, each of which is equivalent to 1,000 kilograms, refers to the maximum weight of cargo and supplies that a vessel can carry. The Company operates oil tankers of two sizes: very large crude carriers, or VLCCs, which are between 200,000 and 320,000 deadweight tons, or dwt, and Suezmax tankers, which are vessels between 120,000 and 170,000 dwt. The Company also operates Aframax/LR2 tankers, which are clean product tankers and range in size from 111,000 to 115,000 dwt. Unless otherwise indicated, all references to "USD", "US\$" and "\$" in this annual report are U.S. dollars.

#### A. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

On July 1, 2015, the Company, Frontline Acquisition Ltd, or Frontline Acquisition, a newly formed and wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, and Frontline 2012 Ltd, or Frontline 2012, entered into an agreement and plan of merger, (as amended from time to time, the "Merger Agreement") pursuant to which Frontline Acquisition and Frontline 2012 agreed to enter into a merger transaction, or the Merger, with Frontline 2012 as the surviving legal entity and thus becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. For accounting purposes, the Merger with Frontline 2012 has been treated as a reverse business acquisition. Because this transaction is accounted for as a reverse business acquisition, the financial statements included in this annual report on Form 20-F for the period through November 30, 2015 are those of Frontline 2012. The financial statements reflect the reverse business acquisition of the Company by Frontline 2012 for the period since November 30, 2015.

The selected statement of operations data of the Company with respect to the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 and the selected balance sheet data of the Company as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, have been derived from the Company's consolidated financial statements included herein and should be read in conjunction with such statements and the notes thereto. The selected statement of operations data with respect to the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 and the selected balance sheet data as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 have been derived from consolidated financial statements of Frontline 2012 not included herein.

The following table should also be read in conjunction with Item 5. "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects" and the Company's consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included herein. The Company's accounts are maintained in U.S. dollars.

	Fiscal year ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
(in thousands of \$, except ordinary shares, per share data and ratios)					
Statement of Operations Data (1):					
Total operating revenues	754,306	558,934	241,826	133,900	140,849
Total operating expenses	574,142	280,639	190,103	125,416	115,176
Net operating income	177,482	287,218	120,712	65,755	25,673
Net income from continuing operations	117,512	255,386	137,414	69,499	8,055
Net (loss) income from discontinued operations after non-controlling interest	—	(100,701)	12,055	—	—
Net income attributable to the Company	117,010	154,624	149,469	69,499	8,055
Basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to the Company from continuing operations (2)	\$0.75	\$2.13	\$1.10	\$0.61	\$0.12
Basic and diluted (loss) earnings per share attributable to the Company from discontinued operations (2)	\$—	\$(0.84)	\$0.10	\$—	\$—
Basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to the Company (2)	\$0.75	\$1.29	\$1.19	\$0.61	\$0.12
Cash dividends per share declared (2) (3)	\$1.05	\$0.25	\$4.46	\$0.64	\$2.81

	Fiscal year ended December 31,					
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	
(in thousands of \$, except ordinary shares and ratios)						
Balance Sheet Data (at end of year) (1):						
Cash and cash equivalents	202,402	264,524	235,801	347,749	132,724	
Newbuildings	308,324	266,233	227,050	252,753	244,860	
Vessels and equipment, net	1,477,395	1,189,198	861,919	703,061	658,857	
Vessels and equipment under capital lease, net	536,433	694,226	—	—	—	
Investment in associated company	—	—	59,448	90,724	—	
Total assets	2,966,317	2,883,468	2,497,005	1,671,680	1,139,311	
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt	67,365	57,575	44,052	90,492	—	
Current portion of obligations under capital leases	56,505	89,798	—	—	—	
Long-term debt (7)	914,592	745,695	468,760	499,671	638,047	
Obligations under capital leases	366,095	446,553	—	—	—	
Share capital	169,809	781,938	635,205	635,205	397,800	
Total equity attributable to the Company	1,499,601	1,446,282	1,123,580	1,063,157	489,427	
Ordinary shares outstanding (000s) (2)	169,809	156,387	116,712	127,041	79,560	
Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding (000s) (2)	156,973	120,082	125,189	114,377	67,660	
Other Financial Data:						
Equity to assets ratio (percentage) (4)	50.6	% 50.2	% 45.0	% 63.6	% 43.0	%
Debt to equity ratio (5)	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.6	1.3	
Price earnings ratio (6)	9.5	11.6	8.8	26.2	78.9	
Time charter equivalent revenue (8)	566,701	342,773	136,503	70,462	82,409	

Notes:

Frontline 2012 determined that the stock dividend of 75.4 million of its shares in Golden Ocean Group Limited (formerly Knightsbridge Shipping Limited, NASDAQ: VLCCF), or Golden Ocean, in June 2015 represented a significant strategic shift in its business and, therefore, recorded the results of its dry bulk operations as discontinued operations in the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. The balance sheet at December 31, 2014 has also been presented on a discontinued operations basis.

Earnings and dividends per share amounts, the number of ordinary shares outstanding and the weighted average ordinary shares outstanding have been restated to reflect the effect of the reverse business acquisition on November 30, 2015 and the 1-for-5 reverse share split that was effected on February 3, 2016.

In June 2015, Frontline 2012 paid a stock dividend consisting of 75.4 million Golden Ocean shares. In March 2015, Frontline 2012 paid a stock dividend consisting of 4.1 million Avance Gas Holding Limited, or Avance Gas, shares. In October 2013, Frontline 2012 declared the distribution of a dividend consisting of 12.5% of the capital stock of Avance Gas.

Equity-to-assets ratio is calculated as total equity attributable to the Company divided by total assets.

Debt-to-equity ratio is calculated as total interest bearing current and long-term liabilities, including obligations under capital leases, divided by total equity attributable to the Company.

Price earnings ratio is calculated by dividing the closing year end share price by basic earnings per share attributable to the Company. For 2014, 2013, 2012, the price earnings ratio has been calculated by dividing the closing year end share price for Frontline 2012 by basic earnings per share attributable to the Company. Each year end share price has been adjusted for the 1-for-5 reverse share split in February 2016 and the share prices at the end of 2014, 2013 and 2012 have been adjusted for the share exchange ratio in the Merger.

The Company has recorded debt issuance costs (i.e. deferred charges) as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of the related debt rather than as an asset following its adoption of Accounting Standards Update 2015-03 and has applied this on a retrospective basis for all periods presented.

A reconciliation of time charter equivalent revenues to total operating revenues as reflected in the Consolidated Statements of Operations is as follows:

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Total operating revenues	754,306	458,934	241,826	133,900	140,849
Less:					
Finance lease interest income	(2,194 )	(577 )	—	—	—
Other income	(23,770 )	(5,878 )	(1,615 )	—	—
Voyage expenses and commissions	(161,641)	(109,706)	(103,708)	(63,438 )	(58,440 )
Time charter equivalent revenue	566,701	342,773	136,503	70,462	82,409

Consistent with general practice in the shipping industry, the Company uses time charter equivalent revenue, which represents operating revenues less other income and voyage expenses, as a measure to compare revenue generated from a voyage charter to revenue generated from a time charter. Time charter equivalent revenue, a non-GAAP measure, provides additional meaningful information in conjunction with operating revenues, the most directly comparable GAAP measure, because it assists Company management in making decisions regarding the deployment and use of its vessels and in evaluating the Company's financial performance.

## B. CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS



Not applicable.

C. REASONS FOR THE OFFER AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Not applicable.

D. RISK FACTORS

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We are engaged in the seaborne transportation of crude oil and oil products. The following summarizes the risks that may materially affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

#### Risks Related to Our Industry

If the tanker industry, which historically has been cyclical and volatile, declines in the future, our revenues, earnings and available cash flow may be adversely affected

Historically, the tanker industry has been highly cyclical, with volatility in profitability, charter rates and asset values resulting from changes in the supply of, and demand for, tanker capacity. Fluctuations in charter rates and tanker values result from changes in the supply of and demand for tanker capacity and changes in the supply of and demand for oil and oil products. These factors may adversely affect the rates payable and the amounts we receive in respect of our vessels. Our ability to re-charter our vessels on the expiration or termination of their current spot and time charters and the charter rates payable under any renewal or replacement charters will depend upon, among other things, economic conditions in the tanker market and we cannot guarantee that any renewal or replacement charters we enter into will be sufficient to allow us to operate our vessels profitably.

The factors that influence demand for tanker capacity include:

- supply and demand for oil and oil products;
- global and regional economic and political conditions, including developments in international trade, national oil reserves policies, fluctuations in industrial and agricultural production and armed conflicts;
- regional availability of refining capacity;
- environmental and other legal and regulatory developments;
- the distance oil and oil products are to be moved by sea;
- changes in seaborne and other transportation patterns, including changes in the distances over which tanker cargoes are transported by sea;
- increases in the production of oil in areas linked by pipelines to consuming areas, the extension of existing, or the development of new, pipeline systems in markets we may serve, or the conversion of existing non-oil pipelines to oil pipelines in those markets;
- currency exchange rates;
- weather and acts of God and natural disasters;
- competition from alternative sources of energy and from other shipping companies and other modes of transport;
- international sanctions, embargoes, import and export restrictions, nationalizations, piracy and wars; and
- regulatory changes including regulations adopted by supranational authorities and/or industry bodies, such as safety and environmental regulations and requirements by major oil companies.

The factors that influence the supply of tanker capacity include:

- current and expected purchase orders for tankers;
- the number of tanker newbuilding deliveries;
- any potential delays in the delivery of newbuilding vessels and/or cancellations of newbuilding orders;
- the scrapping rate of older tankers;
- technological advances in tanker design and capacity;
- tanker freight rates, which are affected by factors that may affect the rate of newbuilding, swapping and laying up of tankers;
- port and canal congestion;
- price of steel and vessel equipment;

- conversion of tankers to other uses or conversion of other vessels to tankers;
- the number of tankers that are out of service; and
- changes in environmental and other regulations that may limit the useful lives of tankers.

The factors affecting the supply and demand for tankers have been volatile and are outside of our control, and the nature, timing and degree of changes in industry conditions are unpredictable, including those discussed above. Continued volatility may reduce demand for transportation of oil over longer distances and increase supply of tankers to carry that oil, which may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows, ability to pay dividends and existing contractual obligations.

The international tanker industry has experienced volatile charter rates and vessel values and there can be no assurance that these charter rates and vessel values will return to their previous levels

Charter rates in the tanker industry are volatile. We anticipate that future demand for our vessels, and in turn our future charter rates, will be dependent upon economic growth in the world's economies, as well as seasonal and regional changes in demand and changes in the capacity of the world's fleet. We believe that the relatively high charter rates that were paid prior to 2008 were the result of economic growth in the world economies that exceeded growth in global vessel capacity. Since 2008 charter rates have been volatile, and there can be no assurance that economic growth will not stagnate or decline leading to a decrease in vessel values and charter rates. A decline in vessel values and charter rates would have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operation and ability to pay dividends.

Any decrease in shipments of crude oil may adversely affect our financial performance

The demand for our oil tankers derives primarily from demand for Arabian Gulf, West African, North Sea and Caribbean crude oil, which, in turn, primarily depends on the economies of the world's industrial countries and competition from alternative energy sources. A wide range of economic, social and other factors can significantly affect the strength of the world's industrial economies and their demand for crude oil from the mentioned geographical areas. Any decrease in shipments of crude oil from the above mentioned geographical areas would have a material adverse effect on our financial performance. Among the factors which could lead to such a decrease are:

- increased crude oil production from other areas;
- increased refining capacity in the Arabian Gulf or West Africa;
- increased use of existing and future crude oil pipelines in the Arabian Gulf or West Africa;
- a decision by Arabian Gulf or West African oil-producing nations to increase their crude oil prices or to further decrease or limit their crude oil production;
- armed conflict in the Arabian Gulf and West Africa and political or other factors; and
- the development, availability and the costs of nuclear power, natural gas, coal and other alternative sources of energy.

In addition, volatile economic conditions affecting the United States and world economies may result in reduced consumption of oil products and a decreased demand for our vessels and lower charter rates, which could have a material adverse effect on our earnings and our ability to pay dividends.

An over-supply of tanker capacity may lead to reductions in charter rates, vessel values and profitability

In recent years, shipyards have produced a large number of new tankers. If the capacity of new vessels delivered exceeds the capacity of tankers being scrapped and converted to non-trading tankers, tanker capacity will increase. If the supply of tanker capacity increases and the demand for tanker capacity does not increase correspondingly, charter rates could materially decline. A reduction in charter rates and the value of our vessels may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, our ability to pay dividends and our compliance with current or future covenants in any of our agreements.

#### Risks Related to Shipping Generally

Risks involved with operating ocean-going vessels could affect our business and reputation, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition

The operation of an ocean-going vessel carries inherent risks. These risks include the possibility of:

- a marine disaster;
- terrorism;
- environmental accidents;
- cargo and property losses or damage; and
- business interruptions caused by mechanical failure, human error, war, terrorism, piracy, political action in various countries, labor strikes, or adverse weather conditions.

Any of these circumstances or events could increase our costs or lower our revenues. The involvement of our vessels in an oil spill or other environmental disaster may harm our reputation as a safe and reliable tanker operator.

Volatile economic conditions throughout the world could have an adverse impact on our operations and financial results

The world economy continues to face a number of challenges, including turmoil and hostilities in the Middle East and other geographic areas and continuing economic weakness in the European Union and Asia Pacific region. There has historically been a strong link between the development of the world economy and demand for energy, including oil and gas. An extended period of deterioration in the outlook for the world economy could reduce the overall demand for oil and gas and for our services. While market conditions have improved, continued adverse and developing economic and governmental factors, together with the concurrent volatility in charter rates and vessel values, may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, and could cause the price of our ordinary shares to decline.

The European Union continues to experience relatively slow growth. Since the beginning of the financial crisis in 2008, the credit markets in Europe have experienced significant contraction, de-leveraging and reduced liquidity. While credit conditions are beginning to stabilize, global financial markets have been, and continue to be, disrupted and volatile.

Continued economic slowdown in the Asia Pacific region, especially in China, may exacerbate the effect on us of the recent slowdown in the rest of the world. In recent history, China has had one of the world's fastest growing economies in terms of gross domestic product, or GDP, which had a significant impact on shipping demand. The growth rate of China's GDP for the year ended December 31, 2016, is estimated to be around 6.7%, the slowest growth rate in twenty-five years. China and other countries in the Asia Pacific region may continue to experience slowed or even negative economic growth in the future. Our financial condition and results of operations, as well as our future prospects, would likely be impeded by a continuing or worsening economic downturn in any of these countries.

The inability of countries to refinance their debts could have a material adverse effect on our revenue, profitability and financial position

As a result of the credit crisis in Europe, the European Commission created the European Financial Stability Facility, or the EFSF, and the European Financial Stability Mechanism, or the EFSM, to provide funding to Eurozone countries in financial difficulties that seek such support. In 2012, the European Council established a permanent stability mechanism, the European Stability Mechanism, or the ESM, to assume the role of the EFSF and the EFSM in providing external financial assistance to Eurozone countries. Despite these measures, concerns persist regarding the debt burden of certain Eurozone countries and their ability to meet future financial obligations. Potential adverse developments in the outlook for European countries could reduce the overall demand for oil cargoes and for our services. Market perceptions concerning these and related issues, could affect our financial position, results of operations and cash flow.

The current state of the global financial markets and current economic conditions may adversely impact our ability to obtain financing on acceptable terms and otherwise negatively impact our business

Global financial markets and economic conditions have been, and continue to be, volatile. This volatility has negatively affected the general willingness of banks and other financial institutions to extend credit, particularly in the shipping industry, due to the historically volatile asset values of vessels. The shipping industry, which is highly dependent on the availability of credit to finance and expand operations, may continue to be negatively affected by this decline.

Also, as a result of concerns about the stability of financial markets generally and the solvency of counterparties specifically, the cost of obtaining money from the credit markets has increased as many lenders have increased interest rates, enacted tighter lending standards, refused to refinance existing debt at all or on terms similar to current debt and reduced, and in some cases ceased, to provide funding to borrowers. Due to these factors, we cannot be certain that

financing will be available if needed and to the extent required, on acceptable terms. If financing is not available when needed, or is available only on unfavorable terms, we may be unable to meet our obligations as they come due or we may be unable to enhance our existing business, complete additional vessel acquisitions or otherwise take advantage of business opportunities as they arise.

In addition, at times, lower demand for crude oil as well as diminished trade credit available for the delivery of such crude oil have led to decreased demand for tankers creating downward pressure on charter rates.

If the current global economic environment worsens, we may be negatively affected in the following ways:

- we may not be able to employ our vessels at charter rates as favorable to us as historical rates or at all or operate our vessels profitably; and
- the market value of our vessels could decrease, which may cause us to recognize losses if any of our vessels are sold or if their values are impaired.

The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends.

#### Acts of piracy on ocean-going vessels could adversely affect our business

Acts of piracy have historically affected ocean-going vessels trading in regions of the world such as the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean and in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia. Sea piracy incidents continue to occur, particularly in the Gulf of Aden and increasingly in the Gulf of Guinea, with tankers particularly vulnerable to such attacks. Acts of piracy could result in harm or danger to the crews that man our tankers. In addition, these piracy attacks occur in regions in which our vessels are deployed that insurers characterize as "war risk" zones or by the Joint War Committee as "war and strikes" listed areas, premiums payable for such coverage could increase significantly and such insurance coverage may be more difficult to obtain. In addition, crew costs, including costs which may be incurred to the extent we employ on-board security guards, could increase in such circumstances. We may not be adequately insured to cover losses from these incidents, which could have a material adverse effect on us. In addition, detention hijacking as a result of an act of piracy against our vessels, or an increase in cost, or unavailability of insurance for our vessels, could have a material adverse impact on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends and may result in loss of revenues, increased costs and decreased cash flows to our customers, which could impair their ability to make payments to us under our charters.

#### World events could affect our operations and financial results

Past terrorist attacks, as well as the threat of future terrorist attacks around the world, continue to cause uncertainty in the world's financial markets and may affect our business, operating results and financial condition. Continuing conflicts, instability and other recent developments in the Middle East and elsewhere, and the presence of U.S. or other armed forces in Afghanistan and Syria, may lead to additional acts of terrorism and armed conflict around the world, which may contribute to further economic instability in the global financial markets. Any of these occurrences could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our vessels may call on ports located in countries that are subject to restrictions imposed by the U.S. or other governments, which could adversely affect our reputation and the market for our ordinary shares

From time to time on charterers' instructions, our vessels may call on ports located in countries subject to sanctions and embargoes imposed by the United States government and countries identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism, such as Iran, Sudan and Syria. In the past, certain of our vessels have made port calls to Iran, however, none of our vessels made any port calls to Iran during 2016. The U.S. sanctions and embargo laws and regulations vary in their application, as they do not all apply to the same covered persons or proscribe the same activities, and such sanctions and embargo laws and regulations may be amended or strengthened over time. With effect from July 1, 2010, the U.S. enacted the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions Accountability and Divestment Act, or CISADA, which expanded the scope of the Iran Sanctions Act. Among other things, CISADA expands the application of the prohibitions to companies, such as ours, and introduces limits on the ability of companies and persons to do business or trade with Iran when such activities relate to the investment, supply or export of refined petroleum or petroleum products. In addition, on May 1, 2012, President Obama signed Executive Order 13608 which prohibits foreign persons from violating or attempting to violate, or causing a violation of any sanctions in effect against Iran or facilitating any deceptive transactions for or on behalf of any person subject to U.S. sanctions. Any persons found to be in violation of Executive Order 13608 will be deemed a foreign sanctions evader and will be banned from all contacts with the United States, including conducting business in U.S. dollars. Also in 2012, President Obama signed into law the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012, or the Iran Threat Reduction Act, which created new sanctions and strengthened existing sanctions. Among other things, the Iran Threat Reduction Act intensifies existing sanctions regarding the provision of goods, services, infrastructure or technology to Iran's



petroleum or petrochemical sector. The Iran Threat Reduction Act also includes a provision requiring the President of the United States to impose five or more sanctions from Section 6(a) of the Iran Sanctions Act, as amended, on a person the President determines is a controlling beneficial owner of, or otherwise owns, operates, or controls or insures a vessel that was used to transport crude oil from Iran to another country and (1) if the person is a controlling beneficial owner of the vessel, the person had actual knowledge the vessel was so used or (2) if the person otherwise owns, operates, or controls, or insures the vessel, the person knew or should have known the vessel was so used. Such a person could be subject to a variety of sanctions, including exclusion from U.S. capital markets, exclusion from financial transactions subject to U.S. jurisdiction, and exclusion of that person's vessels from U.S. ports for up to two years.

On November 24, 2013, the P5+1 (the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Russia and China) entered into an interim agreement with Iran entitled the "Joint Plan of Action" ("JPOA"). Under the JPOA it was agreed that, in exchange for Iran taking certain voluntary measures to ensure that its nuclear program is used only for peaceful purposes, the U.S. and EU would voluntarily suspend certain sanctions for a period of six months. On January 20, 2014, the U.S. and E.U. indicated that they would begin

implementing the temporary relief measures provided for under the JPOA. These measures included, among other things, the suspension of certain sanctions on the Iranian petrochemicals, precious metals, and automotive industries from January 20, 2014 until July 20, 2014. The JPOA was subsequently extended twice.

On July 14, 2015, the P5+1 and the EU announced that they reached a landmark agreement with Iran titled the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action Regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran's Nuclear Program (the "JCPOA"), which is intended to significantly restrict Iran's ability to develop and produce nuclear weapons for 10 years while simultaneously easing sanctions directed toward non-U.S. persons for conduct involving Iran, but taking place outside of U.S. jurisdiction and does not involve U.S. persons. On January 16, 2016 ("Implementation Day"), the United States joined the EU and the UN in lifting a significant number of their nuclear-related sanctions on Iran following an announcement by the International Atomic Energy Agency ("IAEA") that Iran had satisfied its respective obligations under the JCPOA.

U.S. sanctions prohibiting certain conduct that is now permitted under the JCPOA have not actually been repealed or permanently terminated at this time. Rather, the U.S. government has implemented changes to the sanctions regime by: (1) issuing waivers of certain statutory sanctions provisions; (2) committing to refrain from exercising certain discretionary sanctions authorities; (3) removing certain individuals and entities from OFAC's sanctions lists; and (4) revoking certain Executive Orders and specified sections of Executive Orders. These sanctions will not be permanently "lifted" until the earlier of "Transition Day," set to occur on October 20, 2023, or upon a report from the IAEA stating that all nuclear material in Iran is being used for peaceful activities.

Although we believe that we have been in compliance with all applicable sanctions and embargo laws and regulations, and intend to maintain such compliance, there can be no assurance that we will be in compliance in the future, particularly as the scope of certain laws may be unclear and may be subject to changing interpretations. Any such violation could result in fines, penalties or other sanctions that could severely impact our ability to access U.S. capital markets and conduct our business, and could result in some investors deciding, or being required, to divest their interest, or not to invest, in us. In addition, certain institutional investors may have investment policies or restrictions that prevent them from holding securities of companies that have contracts with countries identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism. The determination by these investors not to invest in, or to divest from, our common stock may adversely affect the price at which our common stock trades. Moreover, our charterers may violate applicable sanctions and embargo laws and regulations as a result of actions that do not involve us or our vessels, and those violations could in turn negatively affect our reputation. In addition, our reputation and the market for our securities may be adversely affected if we engage in certain other activities, such as entering into charters with individuals or entities in countries subject to U.S. sanctions and embargo laws that are not controlled by the governments of those countries, or engaging in operations associated with those countries pursuant to contracts with third parties that are unrelated to those countries or entities controlled by their governments. Investor perception of the value of our common stock may be adversely affected by the consequences of war, the effects of terrorism, civil unrest and governmental actions in these and surrounding countries.

Compliance with safety and other vessel requirements imposed by classification societies may be costly and could reduce our net cash flows and net income

The hull and machinery of every commercial vessel must be certified as being "in class" by a classification society authorized by its country of registry. The classification society certifies that a vessel is safe and seaworthy in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the country of registry of the vessel and the Safety of Life at Sea Convention.

A vessel must undergo annual surveys, intermediate surveys and special surveys. In lieu of a special survey, a vessel's machinery may be placed on a continuous survey cycle, under which the machinery would be surveyed periodically

over a five-year period. We expect our vessels to be on special survey cycles for hull inspection and continuous survey cycles for machinery inspection. Every vessel is also required to be dry docked every two and a half to five years for inspection of its underwater parts.

Compliance with the above requirements may result in significant expense. If any vessel does not maintain its class or fails any annual, intermediate or special survey, the vessel will be unable to trade between ports and will be unemployable, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends.

We are subject to complex laws and regulations, including environmental laws and regulations that can adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition

Our operations will be subject to numerous laws and regulations in the form of international conventions and treaties, national, state and local laws and national and international regulations in force in the jurisdictions in which our vessels operate or are registered, which can significantly affect the ownership and operation of our vessels. These requirements include, but are not limited to, European Union regulations, the U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990, or OPA, the U.S. Clean Air Act, the U.S. Clean Water Act, the International Maritime Organization, or IMO, International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage of

1969, generally referred to as CLC, the IMO International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, the IMO International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 1973, generally referred to as MARPOL, the IMO International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974, generally referred to as SOLAS, the IMO International Convention on Load Lines of 1966 and the U.S. Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, or the MTSA. Compliance with such laws and regulations, where applicable, may require installation of costly equipment or operational changes and may affect the resale value or useful lives of our vessels. Compliance with such laws and regulations may require us to obtain certain permits or authorizations prior to commencing operations. Failure to obtain such permits or authorizations could materially impact our business results of operations, financial conditions and ability to pay dividends by delaying or limiting our ability to accept charterers. We may also incur additional costs in order to comply with other existing and future regulatory obligations, including, but not limited to, costs relating to air emissions including greenhouse gases, the management of ballast waters, maintenance and inspection, development and implementation of emergency procedures and insurance coverage or other financial assurance of our ability to address pollution incidents. Additionally, we cannot predict the cost of compliance with any new regulations that may be promulgated as a result of the 2010 BP plc Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico or other similar incidents in the future. These costs could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

The IMO adopted an International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, or the BWM Convention, in February 2004. The BWM Convention's implementing regulations call for a phased introduction of mandatory ballast water exchange requirements, to be replaced in time with mandatory concentration limits. The BWM Convention was adopted by the required number of states and will enter into force on September 8, 2017. Details about the BWM Convention are further discussed in the Environmental and Other Regulations section.

A failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations may result in administrative and civil penalties, criminal sanctions or the suspension or termination of our operations. Environmental laws often impose strict liability for remediation of spills and releases of oil and hazardous substances, which could subject us to liability, without regard to whether we were negligent or at fault. Under OPA, for example, owners, operators and bareboat charterers are jointly and severally strictly liable for the discharge of oil in U.S. waters, including the 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone around the United States. An oil spill could also result in significant liability, including fines, penalties, criminal liability and remediation costs for natural resource damages under other international and U.S. Federal, state and local laws, as well as third-party damages, including punitive damages, and could harm our reputation with current or potential charterers of our tankers. We will be required to satisfy insurance and financial responsibility requirements for potential oil (including marine fuel) spills and other pollution incidents. Although our technical manager will arrange for insurance to cover our vessels with respect to certain environmental risks, there can be no assurance that such insurance will be sufficient to cover all such risks or that any claims will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

If we fail to comply with international safety regulations, we may be subject to increased liability, which may adversely affect our insurance coverage and may result in a denial of access to, or detention in, certain ports

The operation of our vessels is affected by the requirements set forth in the IMO's International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and Pollution Prevention, or the ISM Code. The ISM Code requires shipowners, ship managers and bareboat charterers to develop and maintain an extensive "Safety Management System" that includes the adoption of a safety and environmental protection policy setting forth instructions and procedures for safe operation and describing procedures for dealing with emergencies. If we fail to comply with the ISM Code, we may be subject to increased liability, including the invalidation of existing insurance or a decrease of available insurance coverage for our affected vessels and such failure may result in a denial of access to, or detention in, certain ports.

Maritime claimants could arrest one or more of our vessels, which could interrupt our cash flow

Crew members, suppliers of goods and services to a vessel, shippers of cargo and other parties may be entitled to a maritime lien against a vessel for unsatisfied debts, claims or damages. In many jurisdictions, a maritime lien-holder may enforce its lien by "arresting" or "attaching" a vessel through foreclosure proceedings. The arrest or attachment of one or more of our vessels could result in a significant loss of earnings for the related off-hire period.

In addition, in jurisdictions where the "sister ship" theory of liability applies, such as South Africa, a claimant may arrest the vessel which is subject to the claimant's maritime lien and any "associated" vessel, which is any vessel owned or controlled by the same owner. In countries with "sister ship" liability laws, claims might be asserted against us or any of our vessels for liabilities of other vessels that we own.

Governments could requisition our vessels during a period of war or emergency resulting in a loss of earnings

A government of a vessel's registry could requisition for title or seize one or more of our vessels. Requisition for title occurs when a government takes control of a vessel and becomes the owner. A government could also requisition one or more of our vessels for hire. Requisition for hire occurs when a government takes control of a vessel and effectively becomes the charterer at dictated charter rates. Generally, requisitions occur during a period of war or emergency. Government requisition of one or more of our vessels could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends.

#### Risks Related to Our Business

We may be unable to comply with the covenants contained in our loan agreement, which could affect our ability to conduct our business

As of December 31, 2016, we had \$992.6 million of outstanding debt. Our outstanding debt requires us or our subsidiaries to maintain the following financial covenants; value-adjusted equity, positive working capital, and a certain level of free cash.

Because some of these ratios are dependent on the market value of vessels, should charter rates or vessel values materially decline in the future, we may be required to take action to reduce our debt or to act in a manner contrary to our business objectives to meet any such financial ratios and satisfy any such financial covenants. Events beyond our control, including changes in the economic and business conditions in the shipping markets in which we operate, may affect our ability to comply with these covenants. We cannot assure you that we will meet these ratios or satisfy our financial or other covenants or that our lenders will waive any failure to do so.

These financial and other covenants may adversely affect our ability to finance future operations or limit our ability to pursue certain business opportunities or take certain corporate actions. The covenants may also restrict our flexibility in planning for changes in our business and the industry and make us more vulnerable to economic downturns and adverse developments. A breach of any of the covenants in, or our inability to maintain the required financial ratios under the credit facilities would prevent us from borrowing additional money under our credit facilities and could result in a default under our credit facilities. If a default occurs under our credit facilities, the lenders could elect to declare the issued and outstanding debt, together with accrued interest and other fees, to be immediately due and payable and foreclose on the collateral securing that debt, which could constitute all or substantially all of our assets.

Delays or defaults by the shipyards in the construction of our newbuildings could increase our expenses and diminish our net income and cash flows

As of December 31, 2016, we had contracts for 16 newbuilding vessels. These vessels are scheduled to be delivered to us through December 2017. Vessel construction projects are generally subject to risks of delay that are inherent in any large construction project, which may be caused by numerous factors, including shortages of equipment, materials or skilled labor, unscheduled delays in the delivery of ordered materials and equipment or shipyard construction, failure of equipment to meet quality and/or performance standards, financial or operating difficulties experienced by equipment vendors or the shipyard, unanticipated actual or purported change orders, inability to obtain required permits or approvals, design or engineering changes and work stoppages and other labor disputes, adverse weather conditions or any other events of force majeure. Significant delays could adversely affect our financial position, results of operations and cash flows. Additionally, failure to complete a project on time may result in the delay of revenue from that vessel, and we will continue to incur costs and expenses related to delayed vessels, such as supervision expense and interest expense for the issued and outstanding debt.

We are dependent on the spot market and any decrease in spot market rates in the future may adversely affect our earnings and our ability to pay dividends

As of December 31, 2016, 36 of the 49 vessels, which are owned, leased or chartered-in by us, were employed in the spot market and we are therefore exposed to fluctuations in spot market charter rates. Historically, the tanker market has been volatile as a result of the many conditions and factors that can affect the price, supply and demand for tanker capacity. The spot market may fluctuate significantly based upon supply and demand of vessels and cargoes. The successful operation of our vessels in the competitive spot market depends upon, among other things, obtaining profitable charters and minimizing, to the extent possible, time spent waiting for charters and time spent in ballast. The spot market is very volatile, and, in the past, there have been periods when spot rates have declined below the operating cost of vessels. If future spot market rates decline, then we may be unable to operate our vessels trading in the spot market profitably, meet our obligations, including payments on indebtedness, or to pay dividends in the future. Furthermore, as charter rates in the spot market are fixed for a single voyage, which may last up to several weeks, during periods in which charter rates are rising, we will generally experience delays in realizing the benefits from such increases.

Our ability to renew the charters on our vessels on the expiration or termination of our current charters, or on vessels that we may acquire in the future, or the charter rates payable under any replacement charters and vessel values will depend upon, among other things, economic conditions in the sectors in which our vessels operate at that time, changes in the supply and demand for vessel capacity and changes in the supply and demand for the seaborne transportation of energy resources.

A drop in spot market rates may provide an incentive for some charterers to default on their charters, and the failure of our counterparties to meet their obligations could cause us to suffer losses or otherwise adversely affect our business

We have entered into various contracts, including charter parties with our customers, which subject us to counterparty risks. The ability of each of the counterparties to perform its obligations under a contract with us or contracts entered into on our behalf will depend on a number of factors that are beyond our control and may include, among other things, general economic conditions, the condition of the shipping sector, the overall financial condition of the counterparty, charter rates received for tankers and the supply and demand for commodities. Should a counterparty fail to honor its obligations under any such contracts, we could sustain significant losses that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and ability to pay dividends.

When we enter into a time charter, the rates under that charter are fixed for the term of the charter. If the spot market rates or short-term time charter rates in the tanker industry become significantly lower than the time charter equivalent rates that some of our charterers are obligated to pay us under our existing charters, the charterers may have incentive to default under that charter or attempt to renegotiate the charter. If our charterers fail to pay their obligations, we would have to attempt to re-charter our vessels, which if re-chartered at lower rates, may affect our ability to operate our vessels profitably and may affect our ability to comply with current or future covenants contained in our loan agreements.

Further, if the charterer of a vessel in our fleet that is used as collateral under any loan agreement enters into default on its charter obligations to us, such default may constitute an event of default under such loan agreement, which could allow the bank to exercise remedies under the loan agreement. If our charterers fail to meet their obligations to us or attempt to renegotiate our charter agreements, we could sustain significant losses which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, as well as our ability to pay dividends, if any, in the future, and compliance with current or future covenants in our loan agreements

Changes in the price of fuel, or bunkers, may adversely affect our profits

For vessels on voyage charters, fuel oil, or bunkers, is a significant, if not the largest, expense. Changes in the price of fuel may adversely affect our profitability to the extent we have vessels on voyage charters. The price and supply of fuel is unpredictable and fluctuates based on events outside our control, including geopolitical developments, supply and demand for oil and gas, actions by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC, and other oil and gas producers, war and unrest in oil producing countries and regions, regional production patterns and environmental concerns. Any future increase in the cost of fuel may reduce the profitability and competitiveness of our business versus other forms of transportation, such as truck or rail.

The operation of tankers involve certain unique operational risks

The operation of tankers has unique operational risks associated with the transportation of oil. An oil spill may cause significant environmental damage, and a catastrophic spill could exceed the insurance coverage available. Compared to other types of vessels, tankers are exposed to a higher risk of damage and loss by fire, whether ignited by a terrorist attack, collision, or other cause, due to the high flammability and high volume of the oil transported in tankers.



Further, our vessels and their cargoes will be at risk of being damaged or lost because of events such as marine disasters, bad weather and other acts of God, business interruptions caused by mechanical failures, grounding, fire, explosions and collisions, human error, war, terrorism, piracy and other circumstances or events. Changing economic, regulatory and political conditions in some countries, including political and military conflicts, have from time to time resulted in attacks on vessels, mining of waterways, piracy, terrorism, labor strikes and boycotts. These hazards may result in death or injury to persons, loss of revenues or property, the payment of ransoms, environmental damage, higher insurance rates, damage to our customer relationships and market disruptions, delay or rerouting.

If our vessels suffer damage, they may need to be repaired at a drydocking facility. The costs of drydock repairs are unpredictable and may be substantial. We may have to pay drydocking costs that our insurance does not cover at all or in full. The loss of revenues while these vessels are being repaired and repositioned, as well as the actual cost of these repairs, may adversely affect our business and financial condition. In addition, space at drydocking facilities is sometimes limited and not all drydocking facilities are

conveniently located. We may be unable to find space at a suitable drydocking facility or our vessels may be forced to travel to a drydocking facility that is not conveniently located relative to our vessels' positions. The loss of earnings while these vessels are forced to wait for space or to travel to more distant drydocking facilities may adversely affect our business and financial condition. Further, the total loss of any of our vessels could harm our reputation as a safe and reliable vessel owner and operator. If we are unable to adequately maintain or safeguard our vessels, we may be unable to prevent any such damage, costs or loss which could negatively impact our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and ability to pay dividends.

Purchasing and operating secondhand vessels may result in increased operating costs and vessels off-hire, which could adversely affect our earnings

Even following a physical inspection of secondhand vessels prior to purchase, we do not have the same knowledge about their condition and cost of any required (or anticipated) repairs that we would have had if these vessels had been built for and operated exclusively by us. Accordingly, we may not discover defects or other problems with such vessels prior to purchase. Any such hidden defects or problems, when detected may be expensive to repair, and if not detected, may result in accidents or other incidents for which we may become liable to third parties. Also, when purchasing previously owned vessels, we do not receive the benefit of any builder warranties if the vessels we buy are older than one year.

In general, the costs to maintain a vessel in good operating condition increase with the age of the vessel. Older vessels are typically less fuel efficient than more recently constructed vessels due to improvements in engine technology. Governmental regulations, safety and other equipment standards related to the age of vessels may require expenditures for alterations or the addition of new equipment to some of our vessels and may restrict the type of activities in which these vessels may engage. We cannot assure you that, as our vessels age, market conditions will justify those expenditures or enable us to operate our vessels profitably during the remainder of their useful lives. As a result, regulations and standards could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and ability to pay dividends.

Our ability to obtain debt financing may be dependent on the performance of our then-existing charters and the creditworthiness of our charterers

We may incur additional bank debt in the future to fund, among other things, our general corporate purposes or the expansion of our fleet. The actual or perceived credit quality of our charterers, and any defaults by them, may materially affect our ability to obtain the capital resources required to purchase additional vessels or may significantly increase our costs of obtaining such capital. Our inability to obtain financing at anticipated costs or at all may materially affect our results of operation and our ability to implement our business strategy.

Because the market value of our vessels may fluctuate significantly, we may incur losses when we sell vessels which may adversely affect our earnings, or could cause us to incur impairment charges

The fair market value of vessels may increase and decrease depending on but not limited to the following factors:

- general economic and market conditions affecting the shipping industry;
- competition from other shipping companies;
- types and sizes of vessels;
- the availability of other modes of transportation;
- cost of newbuildings;
- shipyard capacity;
- governmental or other regulations;

- age of vessels;
- prevailing level of charter rates;
- the need to upgrade secondhand and previously owned vessels as a result of charterer requirements; and
- technological advances in vessel design or equipment or otherwise.

During the period a vessel is subject to a time charter, we will not be permitted to sell it to take advantage of increases in vessel values without the charterers' agreement. If we sell a vessel at a time when ship prices have fallen, the sale may be at less than the vessel's carrying amount on our financial statements, with the result that we could incur a loss and a reduction in earnings. In addition, if we determine at any time that a vessel's future limited useful life and earnings require us to impair its value on our financial statements, that could result in a charge against our earnings and a reduction of our shareholders' equity. We recorded an impairment charge of \$61.7 million in the year ended December 31, 2016, which comprised of \$18.2 million in relation to six MR tankers that were sold during the year and \$43.5 million in relation to four vessels held under capital lease. It is possible that the market value of our vessels will continue to decline in the future and could adversely affect our ability to comply with current

or future financial covenants contained in our loan agreements or other financing arrangements. Any impairment charges incurred as a result of declines in charter rates and other market deterioration could negatively affect our business, financial condition, operating results or the trading price of our ordinary shares.

Conversely, if vessel values are elevated at a time when we wish to acquire additional vessels, the cost of acquisition may increase and this could adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flow and financial condition.

We may be unable to successfully compete with other vessel operators for charters, which could adversely affect our results of operations and financial position

The operation of tankers and transportation of crude and petroleum products is extremely competitive. Through our operating subsidiaries we compete with other vessel owners (including major oil companies as well as independent companies), and, to a lesser extent, owners of other size vessels. The tanker market is highly fragmented. It is possible that we could not obtain suitable employment for our vessels, which could adversely affect our results of operations and financial position.

Our time charters may limit our ability to benefit from any improvement in charter rates, and at the same time, our revenues may be adversely affected if we do not successfully employ our vessels on the expiration of our charters

As of December 31, 2016, 13 of the 49 vessels, which are owned, leased or chartered-in by us, were employed on fixed rate time charters. While our fixed rate time charters generally provide reliable revenues, they also limit the portion of our fleet available for spot market voyages during an upswing in the tanker industry cycle, when spot market voyages might be more profitable. By the same token, we cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully employ our vessels in the future at rates sufficient to allow us to operate our business profitably or meet our obligations. A decline in charter or spot rates or a failure to successfully charter our vessels could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operation and ability to pay dividends.

We may be unable to locate suitable vessels for acquisition which would adversely affect our ability to expand our fleet

Changing market and regulatory conditions may limit the availability of suitable vessels because of customer preferences or because vessels are not or will not be compliant with existing or future rules, regulations and conventions. Additional vessels of the age and quality we desire may not be available for purchase at prices we are prepared to pay or at delivery times acceptable to us, and we may not be able to dispose of vessels at reasonable prices, if at all. If we are unable to purchase and dispose of vessels at reasonable prices in response to changing market and regulatory conditions, our business may be adversely affected.

As we expand our fleet, we may not be able to recruit suitable employees and crew for our vessels which may limit our growth and cause our financial performance to suffer

As we expand our fleet, we will need to recruit suitable crew, shoreside, administrative and management personnel. We may not be able to continue to hire suitable employees as we expand our fleet of vessels. If we are unable to recruit suitable employees and crews, we may not be able to provide our services to customers, our growth may be limited and our financial performance may suffer.

Increased inspection procedures, tighter import and export controls and new security regulations could increase costs and cause disruption of our business

International shipping is subject to security and customs inspection and related procedures in countries of origin, destination and trans-shipment points. Under the MTSA, the U.S. Coast Guard issued regulations requiring the implementation of certain security requirements aboard vessels operating in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. These security procedures can result in delays in the loading, offloading or trans-shipment and the levying of customs duties, fines or other penalties against exporters or importers and, in some cases, carriers. Future changes to the existing security procedures may be implemented that could affect the tanker sector. These changes have the potential to impose additional financial and legal obligations on carriers and, in certain cases, to render the shipment of certain types of goods uneconomical or impractical. These additional costs could reduce the volume of goods shipped, resulting in a decreased demand for vessels and have a negative effect on our business, revenues and customer relations.

Failure to comply with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act could result in fines, criminal penalties and an adverse effect on our business

We may operate in a number of countries throughout the world, including countries known to have a reputation for corruption. We are committed to doing business in accordance with applicable anti-corruption laws and have adopted a code of business conduct and ethics which is consistent and in full compliance with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, or the FCPA. We are subject, however, to the risk that we, our affiliated entities or our or their respective officers, directors, employees and agents may take actions determined to be in violation of such anti-corruption laws, including the FCPA. Any such violation could result in substantial fines, sanctions, civil and/or criminal penalties, curtailment of operations in certain jurisdictions, and might adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition. In addition, actual or alleged violations could damage our reputation and ability to do business. Furthermore, detecting, investigating, and resolving actual or alleged violations is expensive and can consume significant time and attention of our senior management.

### Risks Related to Our Company

#### Incurrence of expenses or liabilities may reduce or eliminate cash distributions

In December 2015, our Board of Directors, or our Board, approved implementing a dividend policy to distribute quarterly dividends to shareholders equal to or close to earnings per share adjusted for non-recurring items. In 2016, we declared dividends of \$0.40 per share for the first quarter, \$0.20 per share for the second quarter, \$0.10 per share for the third quarter and in February 2017, we declared a dividend of \$0.15 per share for the fourth quarter of 2016. The amount and timing of dividends will depend on our earnings, financial condition, cash position, Bermuda law affecting the payment of distributions and other factors. However, we could incur other expenses or contingent liabilities that would reduce or eliminate the cash available for distribution by us as dividends. In addition, the timing and amount of dividends, if any, is at the discretion of our Board. We cannot guarantee that our Board will declare dividends in the future.

#### We may not be able to finance our future capital commitments

We cannot guarantee that we will be able to obtain financing at all or on terms acceptable to us. If adequate funds are not available, we may have to reduce expenditures for investments in new and existing projects, which could hinder our growth and prevent us from realizing potential revenues from prior investments which will have a negative impact on our cash flows and results of operations.

#### We may be required to record a goodwill impairment loss, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial position

We have recorded goodwill in connection with the Merger. We are required to assess goodwill for impairment at least on an annual basis, or more frequently, if indicators are present or changes in circumstances suggest that impairment may exist. Our future operating performance may be affected by potential impairment charges related to goodwill. The process of evaluating the potential impairment of goodwill is subjective and requires significant judgment at many points during the analysis. In evaluating the potential for impairment, we make assumptions and estimates regarding revenue projections, growth rates, cash flows, tax rates, and discount rates, which are uncertain and by nature may vary from actual results and are based on factors that are beyond our control.

Any goodwill impairment loss would negatively impacting our results of operations and financial position. As of December 31, 2016, we had \$225.3 million of goodwill on our balance sheet.

The aging of our fleet may result in increased operating costs in the future, which could adversely affect our earnings

In general, the cost of maintaining a vessel in good operating condition increases with the age of the vessel. As of December 31, 2016, the average age of our tanker fleet, owned, leased or chartered-in by us, is approximately eight years. As our fleet ages, we will incur increased costs. Older vessels are typically less fuel efficient and more costly to maintain than more recently constructed vessels due to improvements in engine technology. Cargo insurance rates also increase with the age of a vessel, making older vessels less desirable to charterers. Governmental regulations, including environmental regulations, safety or other equipment standards related to the age of vessels may require expenditures for alterations, or the addition of new equipment, to our vessels and may restrict the type of activities in which our vessels may engage. As our vessels age, market conditions might not justify those expenditures or enable us to operate our vessels profitably during the remainder of their useful lives.

If we do not set aside funds and are unable to borrow or raise funds for vessel replacement at the end of a vessel's useful life our revenue will decline, which would adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and ability to pay dividends

If we do not set aside funds and are unable to borrow or raise funds for vessel replacement, we will be unable to replace the vessels in our fleet upon the expiration of their remaining useful lives. Our cash flows and income are dependent on the revenues earned by the chartering of our vessels. If we are unable to replace the vessels in our fleet upon the expiration of their useful lives, our business, results of operations, financial condition and ability to pay dividends would be adversely affected. Any funds set aside for vessel replacement will not be available for dividends.

Hemen may be able to exercise significant influence over us and may have conflicts of interest with our other shareholders

As of December 31, 2016, Hemen Holding Ltd, or Hemen, a Cyprus holding company, indirectly controlled by trusts established by our Chairman and President, Mr. Fredriksen, for the benefit of his immediate family, owns approximately 48.4% of our outstanding ordinary shares. For so long as Hemen owns a significant percentage of our outstanding ordinary shares, it may be able to exercise significant influence over us and will be able to strongly influence the outcome of shareholder votes on other matters, including the adoption or amendment of provisions in our articles of incorporation or bye-laws and approval of possible mergers, amalgamations, control transactions and other significant corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control, merger, amalgamations, consolidation, takeover or other business combination. This concentration of ownership could also discourage a potential acquirer from making a tender offer or otherwise attempting to obtain control of us, which could in turn have an adverse effect on the market price of our ordinary shares. Hemen, may not necessarily act in accordance with the best interests of other shareholders. The interests of Hemen may not coincide with the interests of other holders of our ordinary shares. To the extent that conflicts of interests may arise, Hemen may vote in a manner adverse to us or to you or other holders of our securities.

We may be unable to attract and retain key management personnel in the tanker industry, which may negatively impact the effectiveness of our management and our results of operation

Our success depends to a significant extent upon the abilities and efforts of our senior executives, and also Mr. Fredriksen, our Chairman and President, for the management of our activities and strategic guidance. While we believe that we have an experienced management team, the loss or unavailability of one or more of our senior executives, and also Mr. Fredriksen, for any extended period of time could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

If labor interruptions are not resolved in a timely manner, they could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and available cash

As of December 31, 2016, we employed approximately 135 people in our offices in Bermuda, London, Oslo, Singapore and India. We contract with independent ship managers to manage and operate our vessels, including the crewing of those vessels. If not resolved in a timely and cost-effective manner, industrial action or other labor unrest could prevent or hinder our operations from being carried out as we expect and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and available cash.

We may not have adequate insurance to compensate us if our vessels are damaged or lost

We procure insurance for our fleet against those risks that we believe the shipping industry commonly insures. These insurances include hull and machinery insurance, protection and indemnity insurance, which include environmental damage and pollution insurance coverage, and war risk insurance. We can give no assurance that we will be adequately insured against all risks and we cannot guarantee that any particular claim will be paid.



Although we do not anticipate any difficulty in having our technical manager initially obtain insurance policies for us, we cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain adequate insurance coverage for our vessels in the future or renew such policies on the same or commercially reasonable terms, or at all. For example, more stringent environmental regulations have in the past led to increased costs for, and in the future may result in the lack of availability of, protection and indemnity insurance against risks of environmental damage or pollution. Any uninsured or underinsured loss could harm our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends. In addition, our insurance may be voidable by the insurers as a result of certain of our actions, such as our vessels failing to maintain certification with applicable maritime self-regulatory organizations. Further, we cannot assure you that our insurance policies will cover all losses that we incur, or that disputes over insurance claims will not arise with our insurance carriers. Any claims covered by insurance would be subject to deductibles, and since it is possible that a large number of claims may be brought, the aggregate amount of these deductibles could be material. In addition, our insurance policies may be subject to limitations and exclusions, which may increase our costs or lower our revenues, which may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends.

We may be subject to calls because we obtain some of our insurance through protection and indemnity associations

We may be subject to increased premium payments, or calls, if the value of our claim records, the claim records of our fleet managers, and/or the claim records of other members of the protection and indemnity associations through which we receive insurance coverage for tort liability (including pollution-related liability) significantly exceed projected claims. In addition, our protection and indemnity associations may not have enough resources to cover claims made against them. Our payment of these calls could result in significant expense to us, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition and ability to pay dividends.

Because we are a foreign corporation, you may not have the same rights that a shareholder in a United States corporation may have

We are a Bermuda exempted company. Our memorandum of association and bye-laws and the Bermuda Companies Act 1981, as amended, govern our affairs. Investors may have more difficulty in protecting their interests in the face of actions by management, directors or controlling shareholders than would shareholders of a corporation incorporated in a United States jurisdiction. Under Bermuda law a director generally owes a fiduciary duty only to the company; not to the company's shareholders. Our shareholders may not have a direct course of action against our directors. In addition, Bermuda law does not provide a mechanism for our shareholders to bring a class action lawsuit under Bermuda law. Further, our bye-laws provide for the indemnification of our directors or officers against any liability arising out of any act or omission except for an act or omission constituting fraud, dishonesty or illegality.

Because our offices and most of our assets are outside the United States, you may not be able to bring suit against us, or enforce a judgment obtained against us in the United States

Our executive offices, administrative activities and assets are located outside the United States. As a result, it may be more difficult for investors to effect service of process within the United States upon us, or to enforce both in the United States and outside the United States judgments against us in any action, including actions predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States.

United States tax authorities could treat the Company as a "passive foreign investment company," which could have adverse United States federal income tax consequences to United States shareholders

A foreign corporation will be treated as a "passive foreign investment company," or PFIC, for United States federal income tax purposes if either (1) at least 75% of its gross income for any taxable year consists of certain types of "passive income" or (2) at least 50% of the average value of the corporation's assets produce or are held for the production of those types of "passive income." For purposes of these tests, "passive income" includes dividends, interest, and gains from the sale or exchange of investment property and rents and royalties other than rents and royalties which are received from unrelated parties in connection with the active conduct of a trade or business. For purposes of these tests, income derived from the performance of services does not constitute "passive income." United States shareholders of a PFIC are subject to a disadvantageous United States federal income tax regime with respect to the distributions they receive from the PFIC and the gain, if any, they derive from the sale or other disposition of their shares in the PFIC.

Based on our current and proposed method of operation, we do not believe that we are, have been or will be a PFIC with respect to any taxable year. In this regard, we intend to treat the gross income we derive or are deemed to derive from our time chartering and voyage chartering activities as services income, rather than rental income. Accordingly, we believe that our income from these activities does not constitute "passive income," and the assets that we own and operate in connection with the production of that income do not constitute assets that produce, or are held for the production of, "passive income."

Although there is no direct legal authority under the PFIC rules addressing our method of operation there is substantial legal authority supporting our position consisting of case law and United States Internal Revenue Service, or the IRS, pronouncements concerning the characterization of income derived from time charters and voyage charters as services income for other tax purposes. However, it should be noted that there is also authority which characterizes time charter income as rental income rather than services income for other tax purposes. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that the IRS or a court of law will accept our position, and there is a risk that the IRS or a court of law could determine that we are a PFIC. Moreover, no assurance can be given that we would not constitute a PFIC for any future taxable year if there were to be changes in the nature and extent of our operations.

If the IRS were to find that we are or have been a PFIC for any taxable year, our United States shareholders will face adverse United States federal income tax consequences. Under the PFIC rules, unless those shareholders make an election available under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code (which election could itself have adverse consequences for such shareholders, as discussed below under "Taxation-United States Federal Income Tax Considerations"), such shareholders

would be liable to pay United States federal income tax at the then prevailing income tax rates on ordinary income plus interest upon excess distributions and upon any gain from the disposition of our ordinary shares, as if the excess distribution or gain had been recognized ratably over the shareholder's holding period of our ordinary shares. See "Taxation-United States Federal Income Tax Considerations-Passive Foreign Investment Company Status and Significant Tax Consequences" for a more comprehensive discussion of the United States federal income tax consequences to United States shareholders if we are treated as a PFIC.

We may not qualify for an exemption under Section 883 of the Code, and may therefore have to pay tax on United States source income, which would reduce our earnings

Under the Code, 50% of the gross shipping income of a vessel owning or chartering corporation, such as ourselves and our subsidiaries, that is attributable to transportation that begins or ends, but that does not both begin and end, in the United States, may be subject to a 4% United States federal income tax without allowance for deduction, unless that corporation qualifies for exemption from tax under Section 883 of the Code and the applicable Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

We did not qualify for this statutory tax exemption for the 2016 taxable year because 5% shareholders owned 50% or more of our ordinary shares for more than half the number of days in the year. Therefore, we did not qualify for exemption under Section 883 and were subject to a 4% United States federal income tax without allowance for deduction.

However, we may qualify for exemption under Section 883 in future taxable years. In this regard, we believe that 5% shareholders currently own less than 50% of our ordinary shares, and, if this continues to be the case, we would expect to qualify for the benefits of Section 883. However, there are factual circumstances beyond our control that could cause us to lose the benefit of this tax exemption and become subject to United States federal income tax on our United States source shipping income. For example, if Hemen, who we believe to be a non-qualified shareholder, were to, in combination with other non-qualified shareholders, come to own 50% or more of our outstanding ordinary shares for more than half the days during the taxable year, we would not qualify for exemption under Section 883 for such taxable year. Due to the factual nature of the issues involved, there can be no assurances on our tax-exempt status or that of any of our subsidiaries.

If we are not entitled to exemption under Section 883 of the Code for any taxable year, we could be subject during those years to an effective 2% United States federal income tax on gross shipping income derived during such a year that is attributable to the transport of cargoes to or from the United States. The imposition of this tax would have a negative effect on our business and would result in decreased earnings available for distribution to our shareholders.

The price of our ordinary shares historically has been volatile

The trading price and volume of our ordinary shares has been and may continue to be subject to large fluctuations. The market price and volume of our ordinary shares may increase or decrease in response to a number of events and factors, including:

- trends in our industry and the markets in which we operate;
- changes in the market price of the services we provide;
- the introduction of new technologies or products by us or by our competitors;
- changes in expectations as to our future financial performance, including financial estimates by securities analysts and investors;
- operating results that vary from the expectations of securities analysts and investors;
-

announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures, financings or capital commitments;  
• changes in laws and regulations;  
• general economic and competitive conditions; and  
• changes in key management personnel.

This volatility may adversely affect the prices of our ordinary shares regardless of our operating performance. To the extent that the price of our ordinary shares declines, our ability to raise funds through the issuance of equity or otherwise use our ordinary shares as consideration will be reduced. These factors may limit our ability to implement our operating and growth plans.

Future sales of our ordinary shares could have an adverse effect on our share price

In order to finance our future operations and growth, we may have to incur substantial additional indebtedness and possibly issue additional equity securities. Future ordinary share issuances, directly or indirectly through convertible or exchangeable securities, options or warrants, will generally dilute the ownership interests of our existing ordinary shareholders, including their relative voting rights and could require substantially more cash to maintain the then existing level, if any, of our dividend payments to our

ordinary shareholders, as to which no assurance can be given. Preferred shares, if issued, will generally have a preference on dividend payments, which could prohibit or otherwise reduce our ability to pay dividends to our ordinary shareholders. Our debt will be senior in all respects to our ordinary shareholders, will generally include financial and operating covenants with which we will be required to comply and will include acceleration provisions upon defaults thereunder, including our failure to make any debt service payments, and possibly under other debt. Because our decision to issue equity securities or incur debt in the future will depend on a variety of factors, including market conditions and other matters that are beyond our control, we cannot predict or estimate the timing, amount or form of our capital raising activities in the future. Such activities could, however, cause the price of our ordinary shares to decline significantly.

#### ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

##### A. HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPANY

###### The Company

We are Frontline Ltd., an international shipping company incorporated in Bermuda as an exempted company under the Bermuda Companies Law of 1981 on June 12, 1992 (Company No. EC-17460). On November 30, 2015, the Company and Frontline 2012 completed the Merger in which the Company was the legal acquirer and Frontline 2012 was identified as the accounting acquirer. Frontline 2012 was incorporated in Bermuda on December 12, 2011. Our registered and principal executive offices are located at Par-la-Ville Place, 14 Par-la-Ville Road, Hamilton, HM 08, Bermuda, and our telephone number at that address is +(1) 441 295 6935. Our ordinary shares are currently listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, and the Oslo Stock Exchange, or the OSE, under the symbol of "FRO".

We are engaged primarily in the ownership and operation of oil and product tankers. We operate through subsidiaries located in Bermuda, India, Liberia, the Marshall Islands, Norway, the United Kingdom and Singapore. We are also involved in the charter, purchase and sale of vessels.

###### Offering

On December 16, 2016, the Company completed an offering of 13,422,818 new ordinary shares at \$7.45 per share, or the Offering, generating gross proceeds of \$100.0 million. The Company's largest shareholder, Hemen, guaranteed the Offering and purchased 1,342,281 new ordinary shares in the Offering, corresponding to 10% of the Offering. Upon completion of the Offering, Hemen owns 82,145,703 shares of the Company, or approximately 48.4% of the Company's outstanding ordinary shares.

###### Formation of Frontline 2012

On December 31, 2011, in conjunction with a Board approved restructuring plan to meet the challenges created by a very weak tanker market, the Company completed the sale of 15 wholly-owned special purpose companies, or SPCs, to Frontline 2012. These SPCs owned six VLCCs (Front Kathrine, Front Queen, Front Eminence, Front Endurance, Front Cecilie and Front Signe, one of which was on time charter), four Suezmax tankers (Front Thor, Front Odin, Front Loki and Front Njord) and five VLCC newbuilding contracts. The SPCs were sold at fair market value of \$1,120.7 million, which was the average of three independent broker valuations. As part of the transaction, Frontline 2012 assumed the obligation to pay \$666.3 million in bank debt and \$325.5 million in remaining commitments to the yard under the newbuilding contracts.

###### The Merger

On November 30, 2015, pursuant to a Merger Agreement, dated July, 1 2015, between the Company, Frontline Acquisition Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, and Frontline 2012, the Company completed the Merger with Frontline 2012. The Merger has been accounted for as a business combination using the acquisition method of accounting under the provisions of ASC 805, with Frontline 2012 selected as the accounting acquirer under this guidance. Consequently, the Company's historical financial statements (in all subsequent financial statements that reflect the acquisition) will be those of Frontline 2012.

#### Avance Gas

On October 2, 2013, Frontline 2012 entered into an agreement with Stolt-Nielsen Limited, a public company incorporated in Bermuda and listed on the OSE and Sungas Holdings Ltd., a private company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, whereby Frontline 2012 became a 37.5% shareholder in Avance Gas for a purchase consideration of \$70.7 million. Frontline 2012 also provided Avance Gas with a loan of \$33.4 million comprising a \$10.0 million equity shareholder loan and a \$23.4 million debt shareholder loan. In October 2013, Frontline 2012 declared the distribution of a dividend consisting of 12.5% of the capital stock

of Avance Gas. All non-U.S. shareholders holding 12,500 shares or more, received one share in Avance Gas for every 124.55 shares they held in Frontline 2012, rounded down to the nearest whole share. All U.S. shareholders holding 12,500 shares or more and all shareholders with less than 12,500 shares and fractional shares were paid in cash. In addition, shareholder loans in the amount of \$33.4 million were converted to equity in Avance Gas.

Avance Gas registered on the over-the-counter market in Oslo on October 17, 2013 and completed a private placement of 5,882,352 new shares on November 28, 2013, which generated gross proceeds of approximately \$100 million to Avance Gas. Following the dividend distribution, the conversion of shareholder loans to equity and the private placement by Avance Gas, Frontline 2012 owned 6,955,975 shares in Avance Gas at December 31, 2013 representing 22.89% of the total number of shares outstanding.

On April 9, 2014, Avance Gas completed an initial public offering, or IPO, of 4,894,262 new ordinary shares. Also on April 9, 2014, Frontline 2012 sold 2,854,985 shares in Avance Gas and following the sale of shares in Avance Gas, Frontline 2012 owned 4,100,990 shares in Avance Gas at December 31, 2014, representing 11.62% of the total number of shares outstanding.

On March 25, 2015, Frontline 2012 paid a stock dividend consisting of 4.1 million Avance Gas shares. All shareholders holding 60.74 shares or more of Frontline 2012, received one share in Avance Gas for every 60.74 shares they held, rounded down to the nearest whole share. The remaining fractional shares were paid in cash. Frontline 2012 retained 112,715 shares and stopped accounting for the investment as an equity method investment at this time as it no longer had significant influence over Avance Gas.

#### Golden Ocean

On April 3, 2014, Frontline 2012 and Golden Ocean entered into an agreement pursuant to which Frontline 2012 sold all of the shares of five SPCs, each owning a cash balance and a Capesize newbuilding, to Golden Ocean. On April 23, 2014, the closing date of the transaction, Golden Ocean issued 15.5 million newly issued ordinary shares to Frontline 2012 as consideration and Golden Ocean assumed \$150.0 million in remaining newbuilding installments in connection with the SPCs. Frontline 2012 also agreed to continue the performance guarantees given in favor of the yard until the delivery of each newbuilding for no consideration and, Golden Ocean agreed to hold Frontline 2012 harmless against any claim under the performance guarantee after the closing date of the transaction. Golden Ocean also had the right but not the obligation to sell the SPC back to Frontline 2012 if it reached a point whereby the newbuilding contract could be cancelled. All five newbuildings were delivered to Golden Ocean during 2014. Frontline 2012 owned approximately 31.6% of the total shares outstanding in Golden Ocean with a market value of \$194.4 million as a consequence of this transaction and commenced equity accounting for this investment.

In April 2014, Frontline 2012 also agreed to sell twenty-five SPCs to Golden Ocean, each owning a fuel efficient dry bulk newbuilding. Thirteen of the SPCs were sold in September 2014 at which time Golden Ocean issued 31.0 million shares to Frontline 2012 and assumed \$490.0 million in respect of remaining newbuilding installments. Frontline 2012 owned approximately 58% of the total shares outstanding in Golden Ocean as a consequence of this transaction and accounted for it as a business combination achieved in stages with Frontline 2012 selected as the accounting acquirer.

Frontline 2012 sold the remaining twelve SPCs in March 2015 and received 31.0 million shares as consideration. Golden Ocean assumed \$404.0 million in respect of remaining newbuilding installments, net of a cash payment from Frontline 2012 of \$108.6 million. Frontline 2012 owned approximately 70% of the total shares outstanding in Golden Ocean as a consequence of this transaction.

On October 7, 2014, Golden Ocean and Golden Ocean Group Limited, or the Former Golden Ocean, entered into an agreement and plan of merger, pursuant to which the two companies agreed to merge, with Golden Ocean as the



surviving legal entity. The merger was completed on March 31, 2015, at which time Golden Ocean acquired 100% of the Former Golden Ocean's outstanding shares and the name of Knightsbridge Shipping Limited was changed to Golden Ocean Group Limited. Shareholders in the Former Golden Ocean Group received shares in Golden Ocean as merger consideration. One share in the Former Golden Ocean gave the right to receive 0.13749 shares in Golden Ocean, and Golden Ocean issued a total of 61.4 million shares to shareholders in the Former Golden Ocean as merger consideration. Frontline 2012 de-consolidated Golden Ocean as of March 31, 2015, as its shareholding in Golden Ocean fell to approximately 45% and commenced equity accounting for its investment in Golden Ocean.

In June 2015, Frontline 2012 paid a stock dividend consisting of 75.4 million Golden Ocean shares. All shareholders holding 3.2142 shares or more, received one share in Golden Ocean for every 3.2142 shares held, rounded down to the nearest whole share. The remaining fractional shares were paid in cash. Frontline 2012 held 77.5 million Golden Ocean shares prior to this stock dividend and retained 2.1 million Golden Ocean shares in respect of the treasury shares held by Frontline 2012. This stock dividend triggered discontinued operations presentation of Frontline 2012's results of operations from Golden Ocean.

Vessel Acquisitions, Disposals, Redeliveries and Newbuilding Contracts of the Company and Frontline 2012

The Company

In March 2014, a subsidiary of Independent Tankers Corporation Limited, or ITCL, one of the Company's majority owned subsidiaries, entered into an agreement to sell the VLCC Ulysses (ex-Phoenix Voyager) to an unrelated third party. The vessel was delivered to the buyer on March 11, 2014. This transaction was cash neutral to the Company as all of the net proceeds were used to repay debt, which was non-recourse to the Company.

In May 2014, the Company took delivery of the Suezmax newbuilding, Front Ull.

In July 2014, the Company agreed with Ship Finance International Limited, or Ship Finance, to terminate the long term charter parties for the 1999-built VLCCs Front Commerce, Front Comanche and Front Opalia and Ship Finance simultaneously sold the vessels to unrelated third parties. The charter parties for the Front Commerce, Front Comanche and Front Opalia terminated on November 4, November 12 and November 19, 2014, respectively. The Company agreed to make an aggregate compensation payment to Ship Finance of \$58.8 million for the early termination of the charter parties, of which \$10.5 million was paid upon termination and the balance was recorded as notes payable. The outstanding balance on the notes payable on November 30, 2015 was repaid in December 2015.

In September 2014, a subsidiary of ITCL agreed to sell the VLCC Ulriken (ex Antares Voyager) to an unrelated third party and the vessel was delivered to the new owners in October 2014. The related debt in the amount of \$36.7 million, which was non-recourse to the Company, was repaid in full in January 2015 from the net proceeds and restricted cash.

In January 2015, the Company took delivery of the Suezmax newbuilding, Front Idun.

In August 2015, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1995-built Suezmax tanker Front Glory. Ship Finance has simultaneously sold the vessel to an unrelated third party. The charter with Ship Finance terminated during the third quarter of 2015. The Company received a compensation payment of \$2.2 million from Ship Finance.

In September 2015, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1995-built Suezmax tanker Front Splendour. The charter with Ship Finance terminated in October 2015. The Company received a compensation payment of \$1.3 million from Ship Finance for the termination of the charter.

In November 2015, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1998-built Suezmax tanker Mindanao. The charter with Ship Finance was terminated during the fourth quarter of 2015. The Company received a compensation payment of \$3.3 million from Ship Finance for the termination of the charter.

In January 2016, the Company took delivery of two Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings, Front Ocelot and Front Cheetah.

In March 2016, the Company took delivery of two Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings, Front Cougar and Front Lynx.

In May 2016, the Company took delivery of the Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuilding, Front Leopard.

In May 2016, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1998-built VLCC Front Vanguard. The charter with Ship Finance terminated in July 2016. Frontline made a compensation payment to Ship Finance of \$0.4 million for the termination of the charter.

In June 2016, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its six MR tankers for an aggregate price of \$172.5 million to an unaffiliated third party. Five of these vessels were delivered by the Company in August and September 2016 and the final vessel was delivered in November 2016. The Company recorded an impairment loss of \$18.2 million in 2016 in respect of these vessels.

In June 2016, the Company took delivery of the Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuilding, Front Jaguar.

In June 2016, the Company acquired two VLCC newbuildings under construction at Hyundai Heavy Industries at a purchase price of \$84 million each. The Front Duke was delivered to the Company in September 2016 and the Front Duchess was delivered to the Company in February 2017.

In August 2016, the Company took delivery of the Suezmax newbuilding, Front Challenger.

In September 2016, the Suezmax newbuilding, Front Crown and the Aframax/LR2 newbuilding, Front Altair, were delivered to the Company.

In November 2016, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1998-built VLCC Front Century upon the sale and delivery of the vessel to a third party. Ship Finance has simultaneously sold the vessel to an unrelated third party. The charter with Ship Finance terminated in March 2017. The Company has agreed a compensation payment to Ship Finance of approximately \$4.0 million for the termination of the current charter. Following this termination, the number of vessels on charter from Ship Finance was reduced to twelve vessels, including ten VLCCs and two Suezmax tankers.

In January 2017, the Company took delivery of the Suezmax newbuilding Front Classic and the Aframax/LR2 newbuildings Front Antares and Front Vega.

In March 2017, the lease with Ship Finance for the 1998-built VLCC Front Century was terminated. The Company expects to record a gain on this lease termination of \$20.3 million in the first quarter of 2017.

In March 2017, the Company took delivery of the Suezmax newbuilding Front Clipper.

#### Frontline 2012

As of December 31, 2013, Frontline 2012's newbuilding program totaled 62 vessels (including the eight newbuildings sold to Avance Gas) and comprised 20 newbuildings within the crude oil and petroleum product markets, 34 Capesize vessels and eight VLGCs.

In February 2014, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for four 180,000 dwt bulk carriers with expected deliveries between August 2016 and September 2016.

In April 2014, Frontline 2012 entered into an agreement with Golden Ocean, and sold all of the shares of five SPCs, each owning a Capesize newbuilding, in exchange for 15.5 million shares of Golden Ocean. Two of the newbuildings were delivered to Golden Ocean in May 2014 and the remaining newbuildings were delivered in June, July and September 2014. The carrying cost of these newbuilding contracts was \$41.6 million and Frontline 2012 recognized a gain on sale on these SPCs of \$74.8 million, which was recorded in 'Gain on cancellation and sale of newbuilding contracts' and has been included in 'Net loss from discontinued operations'.

In May 2014, Frontline 2012 cancelled the first of its six MR newbuilding contracts (hull D2171) at STX (Dalian) Shipbuilding Co., Ltd, or STX Dalian, due to the excessive delay compared to the contractual delivery date and demanded payment from STX Dalian and the refund guarantee bank in respect of installments paid and accrued interest of \$10.8 million. The carrying cost of hull D2171 at the time of cancellation of \$9.0 million was transferred to a short term claim receivable and was settled in October 2015.

In July 2014, Frontline 2012 cancelled the second of its six MR newbuilding contracts (hull D2172) at STX Dalian due to the excessive delay compared to the contractual delivery date and demanded payment from STX Dalian and the refund guarantee bank in respect of installments paid and accrued interest. The carrying cost of hull D2172 at the time of cancellation of \$8.8 million was transferred to a claim receivable and was settled in September 2014.

In September 2014, Frontline 2012 cancelled the third of its six MR newbuilding contracts (hull D2173) at STX Dalian due to the excessive delay compared to the contractual delivery date and demanded payment from STX Dalian and the refund guarantee bank in respect of installments paid and accrued interest of \$11.0 million. The carrying cost of hull D2173 at the time of cancellation of \$9.1 million was transferred to a claim receivable and was settled in

October 2014.

In December 2014, Frontline 2012 cancelled the fourth of its six MR newbuilding contracts (hull D2174) at STX Dalian due to the excessive delay compared to the contractual delivery date and demanded payment from \$7.5 million in respect of installments paid and accrued interest from STX Dalian and the refund guarantee bank. The carrying cost of hull D2174 at the time of cancellation of \$5.8 million was transferred to a short term claim receivable and was settled in January 2015.

In January 2014, Frontline 2012 took delivery of Front Dee and Front Clyde and in February and March 2014, took delivery of Front Esk and Front Mersey, respectively, the remaining four fuel efficient MR tanker newbuildings ordered from STX Korea. In September 2014, Frontline 2012 took delivery of Front Lion the first of fourteen fuel efficient Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings ordered from Guangzhou Longxe Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.

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In September and December 2014, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for four and two Suezmax carriers, respectively, with expected deliveries between September 2016 and March 2017.

At December 31, 2014, Frontline 2012 had four Capesize newbuilding contracts with STX Dalian and four Capesize newbuilding contracts with STX Korea, which had been sub-contracted to STX Dalian. No installments have been paid in respect of these newbuilding contracts and there has been no activity at STX Dalian in respect of these contracts. At December 31, 2014, Frontline 2012 also had two MR newbuilding contracts with STX Dalian (hulls D2175 and D2176), which had an aggregate carrying value of \$11.6 million at that date.

As of December 31, 2014, Frontline 2012's newbuilding program, excluding newbuildings agreed to be sold and newbuilding contracts with STX Dalian and STX Korea, comprised 13 Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings and six Suezmax tanker newbuildings.

In January 2015, Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for two VLCCs with expected deliveries between February and May 2017.

Frontline 2012 took delivery of the second and third Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings, Front Panther and Front Puma, in January 2015 and March 2015, respectively.

In April 2015, Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for two Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings with expected deliveries between May and August 2017.

In June 2015, Frontline 2012 took delivery of the fourth Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuilding, Front Tiger.

In June 2015, Frontline 2012 cancelled the final two MR newbuilding contracts (hulls D2175 and D2176) at STX Dalian due to the excessive delay compared to the contractual delivery date and demanded payment of installments paid and accrued interest from STX Dalian and the refund guarantee bank. The carrying cost of hull D2175 and D2176 at the time of cancellation was \$5.8 million per newbuilding, which was transferred to other receivables and settled in August 2015.

In June 2015, Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for two VLCCs with expected deliveries between March and June 2017.

In July 2015, Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for two Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings with expected deliveries in July and August 2017.

In September 2015, Frontline 2012 signed newbuilding contracts for two VLCCs with expected deliveries between July and October 2017.

In November 2015, Frontline 2012 entered into an agreement to purchase two Suezmax tanker newbuilding contracts from Golden Ocean at a purchase price of \$55.7 million per vessel. The transaction was completed in December 2015. The vessels have delivery dates in the first half of 2017. The contracts were acquired as a result of the Merger and were valued at \$16.5 million being the excess of the estimated fair value of the contracts less the purchase price.

As of December 31, 2015 and since the completion of the Merger, the Company has a newbuilding program of 28 vessels, comprised of six VLCCs, eight Suezmax tankers and 14 Aframax/LR2 tankers.

In the first quarter of 2016, the Company took delivery of four Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings, Front Ocelot, Front Cheetah, Front Cougar and Front Lynx.

The Company took delivery of the Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings, Front Leopard and Front Jaguar, in May and June 2016, respectively.

In June 2016, the Company acquired two VLCC newbuildings under construction at Hyundai Heavy Industries at a purchase price of \$84.0 million each. The Front Duke was delivered to the Company in September 2016 and the Front Duchess was delivered to the Company in February 2017. In June 2016, the Company also acquired options for two VLCC newbuildings, which lapsed in August 2016.

In August 2016, the Company took delivery of the Suezmax newbuilding, Front Challenger.

In September 2016, the Suezmax newbuilding, Front Crown and the Aframax/LR2 newbuilding, Front Altair, were delivered to the Company.

In October 2016, the Company entered into an agreement with STX Offshore & Shipbuilding Co., Ltd in Korea, or STX, to terminate the contracts for four VLCC newbuildings due for delivery in 2017. The contracted price of these vessels was \$364.3 million, of which the Company has paid installments of \$45.5 million. Following the contract terminations, the Company has been released of any and all obligations relating to the contracts, and has received all installment payments made to STX, less a \$0.5 million cancellation fee per vessel. The Company recorded a loss of \$2.8 million related to the contract terminations in the third quarter of 2016.

As of December 31, 2016, the Company's newbuilding program comprised three VLCCs, six Suezmax tankers and seven Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings.

In February 2017, the Company acquired two VLCC newbuildings under construction at Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering, or DSME. The vessels are due for delivery in September and October 2017.

## B. BUSINESS OVERVIEW

As of December 31, 2016, the Company's fleet consisted of 56 vessels, with an aggregate capacity of approximately 11 million dwt. The Company's fleet consisted of (i) 28 vessels owned by the Company (seven VLCCs, ten Suezmax tankers and eleven Aframax/LR2 tankers), (ii) 13 vessels that are under capital leases (11 VLCCs and two Suezmax tankers), (iii) one VLCC that is recorded as an investment in finance lease, (iv) four vessels chartered-in for periods of 12 months including extension options (two VLCCs and two Suezmax tankers), which will be redelivered during the first and second quarter of 2017, (v) two VLCCs where the cost/revenue is split equally with a third party (of which one is chartered-in by the Company and one by a third party), (vi) three MR product tankers that are chartered-in on short term time charters with a remaining duration of less than two months and (vii) five vessels that are under the Company's commercial management (two Suezmax tankers and three Aframax oil tankers). Furthermore the Company has 16 newbuildings under construction, comprised of three VLCCs, six Suezmax tankers and seven Aframax/LR2 tankers.

See Note 31 to our audited Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for changes in our vessels subsequent to December 31, 2016.

Our vessels operate worldwide and therefore management does not evaluate performance by geographical region as this information is not meaningful.

We own various vessel owning and operating subsidiaries. Our operations take place substantially outside of the United States. Our subsidiaries, therefore, own and operate vessels that may be affected by changes in foreign governments and other economic and political conditions. We are engaged in transporting crude oil and its related refined petroleum products and our vessels operate in the spot and time charter markets. Our VLCCs are specifically designed for the transportation of crude oil and, due to their size, are primarily used to transport crude oil from the Middle East Gulf to the Far East, Northern Europe, the Caribbean and the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, or LOOP. Our Suezmax tankers are similarly designed for worldwide trading, but the trade for these vessels is mainly in the Atlantic Basin, Middle East and Southeast Asia.

In October 2014, the Company formed VLCC Chartering Ltd., or VLCC Chartering, a 50/50 joint venture company with Tankers International LLC, or TI, to (i) create a larger fleet with more flexibility and more options for cargo owners and a single point of contact to access these benefits, (ii) reduce voyage related expenses and thereby improve the net earnings of the VLCCs operated by both owning companies through optimization of voyages, and (iii) reduce



carbon emissions as a direct consequence of using less fuel for cargo movements through fleet optimization. VLCC Chartering will serve as manager for our VLCCs and the VLCC fleet of TI.

In June 2016, the Company formed Suezmax Chartering, a commercial joint venture with Diamond S. Shipping LLC and Euronav NV in order to create a single point of contact for cargo owners to access a large fleet of 43 modern Suezmax vessels, traded on the spot market. As of December 31, 2016 the Company has contributed 12 vessels to the joint venture, including one under commercial management and will contribute six newbuildings as they are delivered during the period between January and June 2017. The Company believes that a larger fleet will provide more flexibility and more options for cargo owners and also reduce voyage related expenses by optimizing vessel selection based on proximity to cargoes, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a direct consequence of using less fuel for ballasting movements.

We are committed to providing quality transportation services to all of our customers and to developing and maintaining long-term relationships with the major charterers of tankers. Increasing global environmental concerns have created a demand in the petroleum products/crude oil seaborne transportation industry for vessels that are able to conform to the stringent environmental standards currently being imposed throughout the world.

The tanker industry is highly cyclical, experiencing volatility in profitability, vessel values and freight rates. Freight rates are strongly influenced by the supply of tanker vessels and the demand for oil transportation. Refer to Item 5, "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects-Overview" for a discussion of the tanker market in 2016 and 2017.

Similar to structures commonly used by other shipping companies, our vessels are all owned by, or chartered to, separate subsidiaries or associated companies. Frontline Management AS and Frontline Management (Bermuda) Limited, both wholly-owned subsidiaries, which we refer to collectively as Frontline Management, support us in the implementation of our decisions. Frontline Management is responsible for the commercial management of our ship owning subsidiaries, including chartering and insurance. Each of our vessels is registered under the Bahamas, Liberian, Marshall Islands, Maltese or Hong Kong flag.

In August 2009, the Company established SeaTeam Management, a ship management company in Singapore. SeaTeam Management is a complement to the external ship management companies currently offering services to the Company and is not a change in the Company's outsourcing strategy. However, we would like to strengthen our position towards our service providers to enhance and secure delivery of high quality service at low cost in the future. SeaTeam Management was certified and received its ISM Document of Compliance by Det Norske Veritas on February 3, 2010 and is an approved ship management company. In addition, the Company opened a crewing company in Chennai, India, in January 2010.

### Strategy

Our principal focus is the transportation of crude oil and its related refined petroleum cargoes for major oil companies and major oil trading companies. We seek to optimize our income and adjust our exposure through actively pursuing charter opportunities whether through time charters, bareboat charters, sale and leasebacks, straight sales and purchases of vessels, newbuilding contracts and acquisitions.

We presently operate VLCCs and Suezmax tankers in the crude oil tanker market and Aframax/LR2 tankers in the refined product market. Our preferred strategy is to have some fixed charter income coverage for our fleet, predominantly through time charters, and trade the balance of the fleet on the spot market. We focus on minimizing time spent on ballast by "cross trading" our vessels, typically with voyages loading in the Middle East Gulf discharging in Northern Europe, followed by a trans-Atlantic voyage to the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and, finally, a voyage from either the Caribbean or West Africa to the Far East/Indian Ocean. We believe that operating a certain number of vessels in the spot market, enables us to capitalize on a potentially stronger spot market as well as to serve our main customers on a regular non term basis. We believe that the size of our fleet is important in negotiating terms with our major clients and charterers. We also believe that our large fleet enhances our ability to obtain competitive terms from suppliers, ship repairers and builders and to produce cost savings in chartering and operations.

Our business strategy is primarily based upon the following principles:

- emphasizing operational safety and quality maintenance for all of our vessels;
- complying with all current and proposed environmental regulations;
- outsourcing technical operations and crewing;
- continuing to achieve competitive operational costs;
- achieving high utilization of our vessels;

- achieving competitive financing arrangements;
- achieving a satisfactory mix of term charters, contracts of affreightment, or COAs, and spot voyages; and
- developing and maintaining relationships with major oil companies and industrial charterers.

We have a strategy of extensive outsourcing, which includes the outsourcing of management, crewing and accounting services to a number of independent and competing suppliers. Our vessels are managed by independent ship management companies. Pursuant to management agreements, each of the independent ship management companies provides operations, ship maintenance, crewing, technical support, shipyard supervision and related services to us. A central part of our strategy is to benchmark operational performance and cost level amongst our ship managers. Independent ship managers provide crewing for our vessels. Currently, our vessels are crewed with Russian, Ukrainian, Croatian, Romanian, Indian and Filipino officers and crews, or combinations of these nationalities. Accounting services for each of our ship-owning subsidiaries are also provided by the ship managers.

Seasonality

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Historically, oil trade and, therefore, charter rates increased in the winter months and eased in the summer months as demand for oil and oil products in the Northern Hemisphere rose in colder weather and fell in warmer weather. The tanker industry, in general, has become less dependent on the seasonal transport of heating oil than a decade ago as new uses for oil and oil products have developed, spreading consumption more evenly over the year. This is most apparent from the higher seasonal demand during the summer months due to energy requirements for air conditioning and motor vehicles.

#### Customers

Revenues from two customers in the year ended December 31, 2016 accounted for 10% or more of the Company's consolidated revenues in the amounts of \$117.8 million and \$78.0 million. Revenues from one customer in the year ended December 31, 2015 accounted for 10% or more of the Company's consolidated revenues in the amount of \$71.3 million. Revenues from one customer in the year ended December 31, 2014 accounted for 10% or more of the Company's consolidated revenues in the amount of \$41.0 million.

#### Competition

The market for international seaborne crude and oil products transportation services is highly fragmented and competitive. Seaborne oil transportation services are generally provided by two main types of operators: major oil company captive fleets (both private and state-owned) and independent ship-owner fleets. In addition, several owners and operators pool their vessels together on an ongoing basis, and such pools are available to customers to the same extent as independently owned-and-operated fleets. Many major oil companies and other oil trading companies, the primary charterers of the vessels owned or controlled by us, also operate their own vessels and use such vessels not only to transport their own crude oil but also to transport crude oil for third-party charterers in direct competition with independent owners and operators in the tanker charter market. Competition for charters is intense and is based upon price, location, size, age, condition and acceptability of the vessel and its manager. Competition is also affected by the availability of other size vessels to compete in the trades in which the Company engages. Charters are, to a large extent, brokered through international independent brokerage houses that specialize in finding the optimal ship for any particular cargo based on the aforementioned criteria. Brokers may be appointed by the cargo shipper or the ship owner.

#### Environmental and Other Regulations

Government regulations and laws significantly affect the ownership and operation of our vessels. We are subject to international conventions, national, state and local laws and regulations in force in the countries in which our vessels may operate or are registered and compliance with such laws, regulations and other requirements may entail significant expense.

Our vessels are subject to both scheduled and unscheduled inspections by a variety of government, quasi-governmental and private organizations including local port authorities, national authorities, harbor masters or equivalents, classification societies, flag state administrations (countries of registry) and charterers. Our failure to maintain permits, licenses, certificates or other approvals required by some of these entities could require us to incur substantial costs or temporarily suspend operation of one or more of our vessels.

We believe that the heightened levels of environmental and quality concerns among insurance underwriters, regulators and charterers have led to greater inspection and safety requirements on all vessels and may accelerate the scrapping of older vessels throughout the industry. Increasing environmental concerns have created a demand for vessels that conform to stricter environmental standards. We believe that the operation of our vessels is in substantial compliance

with applicable environmental laws and regulations and that our vessels have all material permits, licenses, certificates or other authorizations necessary for the conduct of our operations; however, because such laws and regulations are frequently changed and may impose increasingly stricter requirements, we cannot predict with certainty the ultimate cost of complying with these requirements, or the impact of these requirements on the resale value or useful lives of our vessels. In addition, a future serious marine incident that results in significant oil pollution or otherwise causes significant adverse environmental impact, such as the 2010 BP plc Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, could result in additional legislation or regulation that could negatively affect our profitability.

#### International Maritime Organization

The International Maritime Organization, or the IMO, is the United Nations agency for maritime safety and the prevention of pollution by ships. The IMO has adopted several international conventions that regulate the international shipping industry, including but not limited to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage of 1969, amended and replaced by the 1992 protocol, generally referred to as CLC, the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage of 2001, and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 1973, or the MARPOL. The

MARPOL is broken into six Annexes, each of which establishes environmental standards relating to different sources of pollution: Annex I relates to oil leakage or spilling; Annexes II and III relate to harmful substances carried, in bulk, in liquid or packaged form, respectively; Annexes IV and V relate to sewage and garbage management, respectively; and Annex VI relates to air emissions.

The operation of our vessels is also affected by the requirements contained in the International Safety Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention, or ISM Code, promulgated by the IMO under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974, or SOLAS. The ISM Code requires the party with operational control of a vessel to develop an extensive safety management system that includes, among other things, the adoption of a safety and environmental protection policy setting forth instructions and procedures for operating its vessels safely and describing procedures for responding to emergencies. We intend to rely upon the safety management system that our appointed ship managers have developed.

Noncompliance with the ISM Code or with other IMO regulations may subject a shipowner or bareboat charterer to increased liability, may lead to decreases in available insurance coverage for affected vessels and may result in the denial of access to, or detention in, some ports including United States and European Union ports.

#### United States

The U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

The U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990, or OPA, established an extensive regulatory and liability regime for environmental protection and clean up of oil spills. OPA affects all "owners and operators" whose vessels trade with the United States or its territories or possessions, or whose vessels operate in the waters of the United States, which include the U.S. territorial sea and the 200 nautical mile exclusive economic zone around the United States. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA, imposes liability for clean up and natural resource damage from the release of hazardous substances (other than oil) whether on land or at sea. OPA and CERCLA both define "owner and operator" in the case of a vessel as any person owning, operating or chartering by demise, the vessel. Accordingly, both OPA and CERCLA impact our operations.

Under OPA, vessel owners and operators are responsible parties who are jointly, severally and strictly liable (unless the spill results solely from the act or omission of a third party, an act of God or an act of war) for all containment and clean-up costs and other damages arising from oil spills from their vessels. OPA contains statutory caps on liability and damages; such caps do not apply to direct clean up costs. Effective December 21, 2015, the USCG adjusted the limits of OPA liability to the greater of \$2,200 per gross ton or \$18,796,800 per tanker, other than a single-hull tank vessel, that is greater than 3,000 gross tons (subject to periodic adjustments for inflation). These limits of liability do not apply if an incident was proximately caused by the violation of an applicable U.S. federal safety, construction or operating regulation by a responsible party (or its agent, employee or a person acting pursuant to a contractual relationship), or a responsible party's gross negligence or willful misconduct. The limitation on liability similarly does not apply if the responsible party fails or refuses to (i) report the incident where the responsible party knows or has reason to know of the incident; (ii) reasonably cooperate and assist as requested in connection with oil removal activities; or (iii) without sufficient cause, comply with an order issued under the Federal Water Pollution Act (Section 311 (c), (e)) or the Intervention on the High Seas Act.

OPA permits individual states to impose their own liability regimes with regard to oil pollution incidents occurring within their boundaries, provided they accept, at a minimum, the levels of liability established under OPA. Some states have enacted legislation providing for unlimited liability for discharge of pollutants within their waters, however, in some cases, states which have enacted this type of legislation have not yet issued implementing regulations defining tanker owners' responsibilities under these laws.

The 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico may also result in additional regulatory initiatives or statutes, including the raising of liability caps under OPA. The U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environment Enforcement, or the BSEE, and the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, or the BOEM, have recently issued rules and regulations. For example, effective October 22, 2012, the BSEE implemented a final drilling safety rule for offshore oil and gas operations that strengthens the requirements for safety equipment, well control systems, and blowout prevention practices. Compliance with any new requirements of OPA may substantially impact our cost of operations or require us to incur additional expenses to comply with any new regulatory initiatives or statutes.

CERCLA contains a similar liability regime whereby owners and operators of vessels are liable for clean up, removal and remedial costs, as well as damage for injury to, or destruction or loss of, natural resources, including the reasonable costs associated with assessing same, and health assessments or health effects studies. There is no liability if the discharge of a hazardous substance results solely from the act or omission of a third party, an act of God or an act of war. Liability under CERCLA is limited to the greater of \$300 per gross ton or \$5 million for vessels carrying a hazardous substance as cargo and the greater of \$300 per gross ton or \$500,000 for any other vessel. These limits do not apply (rendering the responsible person liable for the total cost of response

and damages) if the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance resulted from willful misconduct or negligence, or the primary cause of the release was a violation of applicable safety, construction or operating standards or regulations. The limitation on liability also does not apply if the responsible person fails or refuses to provide all reasonable cooperation and assistance as requested in connection with response activities where the vessel is subject to OPA.

OPA and CERCLA have no effect on the availability of damages under existing law, including maritime tort law. We believe that we are in substantial compliance with OPA, CERCLA and all applicable state regulations in the ports where our vessels call.

OPA and CERCLA both require owners and operators of vessels to establish and maintain with the U.S. Coast Guard, the USCG, evidence of financial responsibility sufficient to meet the maximum amount of liability to which the particular responsible person may be subject. Vessel owners and operators may satisfy their financial responsibility obligations by providing a proof of insurance, a surety bond, qualification as a self-insurer or a guarantee. Under OPA and CERCLA, an owner or operator of more than one tanker is required to demonstrate evidence of financial responsibility for the entire fleet in an amount equal only to the financial responsibility requirement of the tanker having the greatest maximum liability. We have provided such evidence and received certificates of financial responsibility from the USCG for each of our vessels required to have one.

#### Other U.S. Environmental Initiatives

The U.S. Clean Water Act, or CWA, prohibits the discharge of oil, hazardous substances and ballast water in U.S. navigable waters unless authorized by a duly-issued permit or exemption, and imposes strict liability in the form of penalties for any unauthorized discharges. The CWA also imposes substantial liability for the costs of removal, remediation and damages and complements the remedies available under OPA and CERCLA. Furthermore, many U.S. states that border a navigable waterway have enacted environmental pollution laws that impose strict liability on a person for removal costs and damages resulting from a discharge of oil or a release of a hazardous substance. These laws may be more stringent than U.S. federal law.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, has enacted rules requiring a permit regulating ballast water discharges and other discharges incidental to the normal operation of certain vessels within United States waters under the Vessel General Permit for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operation of Vessels, or VGP. For a new vessel delivered to an owner or operator after September 19, 2009 to be covered by the VGP, the owner must submit a Notice of Intent, or NOI, at least 30 days before the vessel operates in United States waters. On March 28, 2013, EPA re-issued the VGP for another five years; this 2013 VGP took effect December 19, 2013. The 2013 VGP contains numeric ballast water discharge limits for most vessels to reduce the risk of invasive species in US waters, more stringent requirements for exhaust gas scrubbers and the use of environmentally acceptable lubricants.

In October 2015, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals issued a ruling that directed the EPA to redraft the sections of the 2013 VGP that address ballast water. However, the Second Circuit stated that the 2013 VGP will remain in effect until the EPA issues a new VGP.

Compliance with the VGP could require the installation of equipment on our vessels to treat ballast water before it is discharged or the implementation of other disposal arrangements, and/or otherwise restrict our vessels from entering United States waters. In addition, certain states have enacted more stringent discharge standards as conditions to their required certification of the VGP. We submit NOIs for our vessels where required and do not believe that the costs associated with obtaining and complying with the VGP have a material impact on our operations.



The USCG regulations adopted under the U.S. National Invasive Species Act, or NISA, also impose mandatory ballast water management practices for all vessels equipped with ballast water tanks entering or operating in U.S. waters, which require the installation of equipment to treat ballast water before it is discharged in U.S. waters or, in the alternative, the implementation of other port facility disposal arrangements or procedures. Vessels not complying with these regulations are restricted from entering U.S. waters. The USCG Marine Safety Center conducts detailed reviews of different manufacturers' ballast water treatment systems to determine whether such systems meet regulatory requirements, and we are able to review which, if any such systems are certified prior to placing on a vessel. Although at least three ballast water treatment systems were certified by the end of 2016, none are appropriate for large tankers. While there remains a process for requesting a waiver from the USCG with respect to compliance with USCG regulations on ballast water system compliance, we do not know if the USCG will reduce the number of waivers it provides in light of the availability of certified systems.

At the international level, the IMO adopted an International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments in February 2004, or the BWM Convention. The BWM Convention provides for a phased introduction of mandatory ballast water exchange requirements, to be replaced in time with mandatory concentration limits. All ships will also have to carry a ballast water record book and an International Ballast Water Management certificate. The BWM Convention enters into force

12 months after it has been adopted by 30 states, the combined merchant fleets of which represent not less than 35% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping tonnage. On September 8, 2016, this threshold was met (with 52 contracting parties making up 35.14%). Thus, the BWM Convention will enter into force on September 8, 2017. Many of the implementation dates originally written into the BWM Convention have already passed, so that once the BWM Convention enters into force, the period for installation of mandatory ballast water exchange requirements would be short, with several thousand ships a year needing to install ballast water management systems, or BWMS. For this reason, on December 4, 2013, the IMO Assembly passed a resolution revising the application dates of the BWM Convention so that they are triggered by the entry into force date and not the dates originally in the BWM Convention. This in effect makes all vessels constructed before the entry into force date 'existing' vessels, and allows for the installation of BWMS on such vessels at the first renewal survey following entry into force of the convention. At its 70th session in October 2016, IMO's Maritime Environment Protection Committee, or MEPC, adopted updated "guidelines for approval of ballast water management systems (G8)." G8 updates previous guidelines concerning procedures to approve BWMS. The cost of compliance could increase for ocean carriers and the costs of ballast water treatments may be material. However, many countries already regulate the discharge of ballast water carried by vessels from country to country to prevent the introduction of invasive and harmful species via such discharges. The United States, for example, requires vessels entering its waters from another country to conduct mid-ocean ballast exchange, or undertake some alternate measure, and to comply with certain reporting requirements. Given the USCG's recent approval of certain ballast water treatment systems, it is difficult to predict the overall impact on compliance and on our operations.

It presently remains unclear how the ballast water requirements set forth by the EPA, the USCG, and IMO BWM Convention, some which are in effect and some which are pending, will co-exist.

The U.S. Clean Air Act, or the CAA, requires the EPA to promulgate standards applicable to emissions of volatile organic compounds and other air contaminants. Our vessels are subject to vapor control and recovery requirements for certain cargoes when loading, unloading, ballasting, cleaning and conducting other operations in regulated port areas. Our vessels that operate in such port areas with restricted cargoes are equipped with vapor recovery systems that satisfy these requirements. The CAA also requires states to draft State Implementation Plans, or SIPs, designed to attain national health-based air quality standards in each State. Although state-specific, SIPs may include regulations concerning emissions resulting from vessel loading and unloading operations by requiring the installation of vapor control equipment. As indicated above, our vessels operating in covered port areas are already equipped with vapor recovery systems that satisfy these existing requirements.

Compliance with the EPA and the USCG regulations could require the installation of certain engineering equipment and water treatment systems to treat ballast water before it is discharged or the implementation of other port facility disposal arrangements or procedures at potentially substantial cost, or may otherwise restrict our vessels from entering U.S. waters.

#### European Union

In October 2009, the European Union amended a directive to impose criminal sanctions for illicit ship-source discharges of polluting substances, including minor discharges, if committed with intent, recklessly or with serious negligence and the discharges individually or in the aggregate result in deterioration of the quality of water. Aiding and abetting the discharge of a polluting substance may also lead to criminal penalties. Member States were required to enact laws or regulations to comply with the directive by the end of 2010. Criminal liability for pollution may result in substantial penalties or fines and increased civil liability claims.

The European Union has adopted several regulations and directives requiring, among other things, more frequent inspections of high-risk ships, as determined by type, age, and flag as well as the number of times the ship has been

detained. The European Union also adopted and then extended a ban on substandard ships and enacted a minimum ban period and a definitive ban for repeated offenses. The regulation also provided the European Union with greater authority and control over classification societies, by imposing more requirements on classification societies and providing for fines or penalty payments for organizations that failed to comply.

#### Greenhouse Gas Regulation

Currently, the emissions of greenhouse gases from ships are not subject to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which entered into force in 2005 and pursuant to which adopting countries have been required to implement national programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The 2015 United Nations Convention on Climate Change Conference in Paris resulted in the Paris Agreement, which entered into force on November 4, 2016. The Paris Agreement does not directly limited greenhouse gas emissions from shipping.

As of January 1, 2013, all ships must comply with mandatory requirements adopted by the MEPC in July 2011 relating to greenhouse

gas emissions. Currently operating ships are now required to develop and implement Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plans, or SEEMPs, and the new ships to be designed in compliance with minimum energy efficiency levels per capacity mile as defined by the Energy Efficiency Design Index, or EEDI. These requirements could cause us to incur additional compliance costs. The IMO is also considering the implementation of market-based mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ships at an upcoming MEPC session. In April 2015, a regulation was adopted requiring that large ships (over 5,000 gross tons) calling at European ports from January 2018 collect and publish data on carbon dioxide emissions. In the United States, the EPA has issued a finding that greenhouse gases endanger the public health and safety and has adopted regulations to limit greenhouse gas emissions from certain mobile sources and large stationary sources. The EPA enforces both the CAA and the international standards found in Annex VI of MARPOL concerning marine diesel engines, their emissions, and the sulphur content in marine fuel. Although the mobile source emissions regulations do not apply to greenhouse gas emissions from vessels, such regulation of vessels is foreseeable, and the EPA has in recent years received petitions from the California Attorney General and various environmental groups seeking such regulation. Any passage of climate control legislation or other regulatory initiatives by the IMO, European Union, the U.S. or other countries where we operate, or any treaty adopted at the international level to succeed the Kyoto Protocol or Paris Agreement, that restrict emissions of greenhouse gases could require us to make significant financial expenditures, including capital expenditures to upgrade our vessels, which we cannot predict with certainty at this time.

#### International Labor Organization

The International Labor Organization, the ILO, is a specialized agency of the UN with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The ILO has adopted the Maritime Labor Convention 2006, or MLC 2006. A Maritime Labor Certificate and a Declaration of Maritime Labor Compliance will be required to ensure compliance with the MLC 2006 for all ships above 500 gross tons in international trade. The MLC 2006 will enter into force one year after 30 countries with a minimum of 33% of the world's tonnage have ratified it. On August 20, 2012, the required number of countries met and MLC 2006 entered into force on August 20, 2013. Amendments to MLC 2006 were adopted in 2014 and 2016. All our vessels are in compliance with, and are certified, to meet MLC 2006.

#### Vessel Security Regulations

Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, there have been a variety of initiatives intended to enhance vessel security. On November 25, 2002, the U.S. Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, or the MTSA, came into effect. To implement certain portions of the MTSA, in July 2003, the USCG issued regulations requiring the implementation of certain security requirements aboard vessels operating in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The regulations also impose requirements on certain ports and facilities, some of which are regulated by the EPA.

Similarly, in December 2002, amendments to SOLAS created a new chapter of the convention dealing specifically with maritime security. The new Chapter XI-2 became effective in July 2004 and imposes various detailed security obligations on vessels and port authorities, and mandates compliance with the International Ship and Port Facilities Security Code, the ISPS Code. The ISPS Code is designed to enhance the security of ports and ships against terrorism.

To trade internationally, a vessel must attain an International Ship Security Certificate, or ISSC, from a recognized organization (RO) approved by the vessel's flag state. The following are among the various requirements, some of which are found in SOLAS:

- on-board installation of automatic identification systems to provide a means for the automatic transmission of safety-related information from among similarly equipped ships and shore stations, including information on a ship's

identity, position, course, speed and navigational status;  
• on-board installation of ship security alert systems, which do not sound on the vessel but only alert the authorities on shore;  
• the development of vessel security plans;  
• ship identification number to be permanently marked on a vessel's hull;  
• a continuous synopsis record kept onboard showing a vessel's history, including the name of the ship, the state whose flag the ship is entitled to fly, the date on which the ship was registered with that state, the ship's identification number, the port at which the ship is registered and the name of the registered owner(s) and their registered address; and  
• compliance with flag state security certification requirements.

A ship operating without a valid certificate, may be detained at port until it obtains an ISSC, or it may be expelled from port, or refused entry at port.

The USCG regulations, intended to align with international maritime security standards, exempt from MTSA vessel security measures non-U.S. vessels that have on board, as of July 1, 2004, a valid ISSC attesting to the vessel's compliance with SOLAS security requirements and the ISPS Code. We believe that our fleet is currently in compliance with applicable security requirements.

### Inspection by Classification Societies

Every oceangoing vessel must be "classed" by a classification society. The classification society certifies that the vessel is "in-class," signifying that the vessel has been built and maintained in accordance with the rules of the classification society and complies with applicable rules and regulations of the vessel's country of registry and the international conventions of which that country is a member. In addition, where surveys are required by international conventions and corresponding laws and ordinances of a flag state, the classification society will undertake them on application or by official order, acting on behalf of the authorities concerned.

Most insurance underwriters make it a condition for insurance coverage that a vessel be certified as "in-class" by a classification society which is a member of the International Association of Classification Societies. All our vessels are certified as being "in-class" by a recognized classification society.

### Risk of Loss and Insurance

The operation of any ocean-going vessel carries an inherent risk of catastrophic marine disasters and property losses caused by adverse weather conditions, mechanical failures, human error, war, terrorism and other circumstances or events. In addition, the transportation of crude oil is subject to the risk of spills, and business interruptions due to political circumstances in foreign countries, hostilities, labor strikes and boycotts. OPA has made liability insurance more expensive for ship owners and operators imposing potentially unlimited liability upon owners, operators and bareboat charterers for oil pollution incidents in the territorial waters of the United States. We believe that our current insurance coverage is adequate to protect us against the principal accident-related risks that we face in the conduct of our business.

Our protection and indemnity insurance, or P&I insurance, covers third-party liabilities and other related expenses from, among other things, injury or death of crew, passengers and other third parties, claims arising from collisions, damage to cargo and other third-party property and pollution arising from oil or other substances. Our current P&I insurance coverage for pollution is the maximum commercially available amount of \$1.0 billion per tanker per incident and is provided by mutual protection and indemnity associations. Each of the vessels currently in our fleet is entered in a protection and indemnity association which is a member of the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Mutual Assurance Associations. The 13 protection and indemnity associations that comprise the International Group insure approximately 90% of the world's commercial tonnage and have entered into a pooling agreement to re-insure each association's liabilities. The pool provides a mechanism for sharing all claims in excess of \$10 million up to, currently, \$1.0 billion. For the 2016/17 policy year, the International Group has maintained a three layer GXL insurance program, together with an additional Collective Overspill layer, which combine to provide just over \$3 billion of commercial reinsurance. As a member of protection and indemnity associations, which are, in turn, members of the International Group, we are subject to calls payable to the associations based on its claim records as well as the claim records of all other members of the individual associations and members of the pool of protection and indemnity associations comprising the International Group.

Our hull and machinery insurance covers actual or constructive total loss from covered risks of collision, fire, heavy weather, grounding and engine failure or damages from same. Our war risks insurance covers risks of confiscation, seizure, capture, vandalism, terrorism, sabotage and other war-related risks. Our loss-of-hire insurance covers loss of revenue for not less than \$20,000 per day for Suezmax tankers and VLCCs for not less than 180 days resulting from an accident covered by the terms of our hull and machinery insurance for each of our vessels, with a 60 day deductible for all Suezmax tankers and VLCCs. Our Aframax/LR2 product tankers are insured for not less than \$20,000 for 90 days with a deductible of 14 days.

C. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

See Exhibit 8.1 to this Form 20-F for a list of our significant subsidiaries.

D. PROPERTY, PLANTS AND EQUIPMENT

The Company's Vessels

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the fleet that we operated as of December 31, 2016:

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Vessel Tonnage Owned	Built	Approximate Dwt.	Flag	Type of Employment <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>VLCCs</b>				
Front Kathrine <sup>(2)</sup>	2009	297,000	MI	Time charter
Front Queen	2009	297,000	MI	Spot market
Front Eminence	2009	321,300	MI	Spot market
Front Endurance	2009	321,300	MI	Spot market
Front Cecilie	2010	297,000	HK	Spot market
Front Signe	2010	297,000	HK	Spot market
Front Duke <sup>(3)</sup>	2016	300,000	MI	Time charter
<b>Suezmax Tankers</b>				
Front Ull	2014	156,000	MI	Spot market
Front Idun	2015	156,000	MI	Spot market
Front Thor	2010	156,000	MI	Spot market
Front Loki	2010	156,000	MI	Spot market
Front Odin <sup>(4)</sup>	2010	156,000	MI	Time charter
Front Njord <sup>(5)</sup>	2010	156,000	HK	Time charter
Front Balder <sup>(6)</sup>	2009	156,000	MI	Time charter
Front Brage	2011	156,000	MI	Spot market
Front Crown	2016	156,000	MI	Spot market
Front Challenger	2016	157,000	MI	Spot market
<b>Aframax/LR2 Tankers</b>				
Front Lion <sup>(7)</sup>	2014	115,000	MI	Time charter
Front Puma <sup>(8)</sup>	2015	115,000	MI	Time charter
Front Panther <sup>(9)</sup>	2015	115,000	MI	Time charter
Front Tiger <sup>(10)</sup>	2015	115,000	MI	Time charter
Front Ocelot	2016	111,000	MI	Spot market
Front Cheetah <sup>(11)</sup>	2016	115,000	MI	Time charter
Front Lynx	2016	111,000	MI	Spot market
Front Cougar	2016	115,000	MI	Spot market
Front Leopard	2016	111,000	MI	Spot market
Front Jaguar <sup>(12)</sup>	2016	111,000	MI	Time charter
Front Altair	2016	111,000	MI	Spot market



## Tonnage chartered-in from Ship Finance

## VLCCs

Front Century (13)	1998	311,000	MI	Spot market
Front Circassia	1999	306,000	MI	Spot market
Front Scilla	2000	303,000	MI	Spot market
Front Ariake (14)	2001	299,000	BA	Time charter
Front Serenade	2002	299,000	LIB	Spot market
Front Stratus	2002	299,000	LIB	Spot market
Front Hakata	2002	298,000	BA	Spot market
Front Falcon	2002	309,000	BA	Spot market
Front Page	2002	299,000	LIB	Spot market
Front Force <sup>(15)</sup>	2004	305,000	MI	Time charter
Front Energy	2004	305,000	MI	Spot market

## Suezmax Tankers

Front Ardenne	1997	150,000	MI	Spot market
Front Brabant	1998	150,000	MI	Spot market

## Tonnage chartered-in from third parties

## VLCCs

Front Tina <sup>(16)</sup>	2000	299,000	LIB	Spot market
Front Commodore <sup>(17)</sup>	2000	299,000	LIB	Spot market
Oceanis <sup>(18)</sup>	2011	300,000	GR	Spot market

## Suezmax Tankers

Front Melody <sup>(19)</sup>	2001	150,000	LIB	Spot market
Front Symphony <sup>(20)</sup>	2001	150,000	LIB	Spot market

## MR Tankers

Gold Point <sup>(21)</sup>	2011	51,000	MLT	Spot market
Miss Benedetta <sup>(22)</sup>	2012	50,000	MLT	Spot market
Miss Marina <sup>(23)</sup>	2011	51,000	MLT	Spot market

1. Time Charter includes those contracts with durations in excess of six months.
2. This vessel commenced a time charter in November 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in April 2017.
3. This vessel commenced a time charter in September 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in April 2017.
4. This vessel commenced a time charter in November 2015 with the earliest possible re-delivery in September 2017.
5. This vessel commenced a time charter in February 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in January 2018.
6. This vessel commenced a time charter in May 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in April 2017.
7. This vessel commenced a time charter in August 2015 with the earliest possible re-delivery in February 2018.
8. This vessel commenced a time charter in March 2015 with the earliest possible re-delivery in February 2018.
9. This vessel commenced a time charter in February 2015 with the earliest possible re-delivery in December 2017.
10. This vessel commenced a time charter in February 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in December 2017.
11. This vessel commenced a time charter in January 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in December 2017.
12. This vessel commenced a time charter in December 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in May 2017.
13. The lease for this vessel terminated in March 2017.
14. This vessel commenced a time charter in March 2016 and was re-delivered in February 2017.
15. This vessel commenced a time charter in September 2016 with earliest possible re-delivery in May 2017.
16. This chartered-in vessel was re-delivered to owners in January 2017.

17. This chartered-in vessel is expected to re-deliver to owners in the second quarter of 2017.

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The profits and losses from chartering in and chartering out this vessel are shared equally with a third party. The 18. charter-in has earliest possible redelivery in November 2017 and latest February 2018. Furthermore, the Company has the option of extending the charter for an additional period of six months.

19. This chartered-in vessel was re-delivered to owners in January 2017.

20. This chartered-in vessel was re-delivered to owners in January 2017.

21. This chartered-in vessel was re-delivered to owners in January 2017.

22. This chartered-in vessel was re-delivered to owners in January 2017.

23. This chartered-in vessel is expected to re-deliver to owners in the second quarter of 2017.

Our fleet chartered-in from Ship Finance is contracted to us under leasing arrangements with remaining fixed terms of between four and ten years.

#### Key to Flags:

BA – Bahamas, LIB - Liberia, MI – Marshall Islands, MLT - Malta, HK – Hong Kong, GR – Greece.

Other than our interests in the vessels described above, we do not own any material physical properties. We lease office space in Hamilton, Bermuda from an unaffiliated third party. Frontline Management AS leases office space, at market rates, in Oslo, Norway from Seatankers Management Norge AS (formerly Bryggegata AS), a company indirectly affiliated with Hemen, our principal shareholder. We also have other leased properties, which are not considered material.

#### ITEM 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

#### ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

##### A. OPERATING RESULTS

###### Overview

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with Item 3, "Selected Financial Data", Item 4, "Information on the Company" and our audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included herein.

As of December 31, 2016, the Company's fleet consisted of 56 vessels, with an aggregate capacity of approximately 11 million dwt. The Company's fleet consisted of (i) 28 vessels owned by the Company (seven VLCCs, ten Suezmax tankers and eleven Aframax/LR2 tankers), (ii) 13 vessels that are under capital leases (11 VLCCs and two Suezmax tankers), (iii) one VLCC that is recorded as an investment in finance lease, (iv) four vessels chartered-in for periods of 12 months including extension options (two VLCCs and two Suezmax tankers), which will be redelivered during the first and second quarter of 2017, (v) two VLCCs where the cost/revenue is split equally with a third party (of which one is chartered-in by the Company and one by a third party), (vi) three MR product tankers that are chartered-in on short term time charters with a remaining duration of less than two months and (vii) five vessels that are under the Company's commercial management (two Suezmax tankers and three Aframax oil tankers). Furthermore the Company has 16 newbuildings under construction, comprised of three VLCCs, six Suezmax tankers and seven Aframax/LR2 tankers.

A full fleet list is provided in Item 4.D. "Information on the Company" showing the vessels that we own, lease and charter-in as of December 31, 2016. See Note 31 to our audited Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for

changes in our vessels subsequent to December 31, 2016.

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## Fleet Changes

Refer to Item 4. for discussion on acquisitions and disposals of vessels. A summary of the changes in the vessels that we own, lease and charter-in for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014 is summarized in the table below. The vessel numbers as of December 31, 2014 are for Frontline 2012 and the vessels shown as 'Acquired upon the Merger' in 2015 are those of the Company due to the fact that Frontline 2012 was determined to be the accounting acquirer in the Merger.

	2016	2015	2014
VLCCs			
At start of period	20	6	6
Acquired upon the Merger	—	12	—
Other acquisitions/newbuilding deliveries	1	—	—
Disposal/lease termination	(1 )	—	—
Chartered-in	1	2	—
At end of period	21	20	6
Suezmax tankers			
At start of period	12	4	4
Acquired upon the Merger	—	4	—
Other acquisitions/newbuilding deliveries	2	2	—
Disposal/lease termination	—	—	—
Chartered-in	—	2	—
At end of period	14	12	4
Aframax/LR2 tankers			
At start of period	7	1	—
Acquired upon the Merger	—	—	—
Other acquisitions/newbuilding deliveries	7	3	1
Disposal/lease termination	—	—	—
Chartered-in	(3 )	3	—
At end of period	11	7	1
MR tankers			
At start of period	10	6	2
Acquired upon the Merger	—	—	—
Other acquisitions/newbuilding deliveries	—	—	4
Disposal/lease termination	(6 )	—	—
Chartered-in	(1 )	4	—
At end of period	3	10	6
Total			
At start of period	49	17	12
Acquired upon the Merger	—	16	—
Other acquisitions/newbuilding deliveries	10	5	5
Disposal/lease termination	(7 )	—	—
Chartered-in	(3 )	11	—
At end of period	49	49	17

## Summary of Fleet Employment

As discussed below, our vessels are operated under time charters and voyage charters.

	As of December 31, 2016		2015		2014		
	Number of vessels	Percentage of fleet	Number of vessels	Percentage of fleet	Number of vessels	Percentage of fleet	
VLCCs							
Spot	17	81	% 16	80	% 5	83	%
Time charter	4	19	% 4	20	% 1	17	%
	21	100	% 20	100	% 6	100	%
Suezmax tankers							
Spot	11	79	% 5	42	% 2	50	%
Time charter	3	21	% 5	42	% 2	50	%
Index related time charter	—	—	2	16	% —	—	
	14	100	% 12	100	% 4	100	%
Aframax/LR2 tankers							
Spot	5	45	% —	—	1	100	%
Time charter	6	55	% 7	100	% —	—	
	11	100	% 7	100	% 1	100	%
MR tankers							
Spot	3	100	% 8	80	% 6	100	%
Time charter	—	—	2	20	% —	—	
	3	100	% 10	100	% 6	100	%
Total fleet							
Spot	36	73	% 29	59	% 14	82	%
Index related time charter	—	—	2	4	% —	—	
Time charter	13	27	% 18	37	% 3	18	%
	49	100	% 49	100	% 17	100	%

## Market Overview and Trend Information

The average rate for VLCCs trading on a standard 'TD3' voyage between the Middle East and Japan in the fourth quarter of 2016 was WS 69, or a daily TCE rate of \$48,478. The average rate for a Suezmax trading on a standard 'TD20' voyage between West Africa and Rotterdam in the fourth quarter of 2016 was WS 81, or a TCE rate of \$24,053. For the LR2 products market the average of a standard 'TC1' Voyage between the Middle East and Japan was WS 74, or a TCE rate of \$7,989.

The VLCC fleet totalled 692 vessels at the end of the fourth quarter of 2016 and the Suezmax fleet totalled 475 vessels. The LR2 product tanker fleet totalled 302 vessels.

Bunkers at Fujairah averaged \$297 per metric ton in the fourth quarter of 2016 compared to \$251 per metric ton in the third quarter of 2016.

The International Energy Agency's, or the IEA, January 2017 report stated an OPEC crude production of 33.2 million barrels per day (mb/d) in the fourth quarter of 2016. This was up 0.64 mb/d from the third quarter of 2016.

The IEA estimates that world oil demand averaged 97.27 mb/d in the fourth quarter of 2016, which is an decrease of 0.12 mb/d compared to the previous quarter. IEA estimates that world oil demand in 2017 will be 98.09 mb/d, representing an increase of 1.68 percent or 1.62 mb/d from 2016.

## Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of our financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires that management make estimates and assumptions affecting the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Management believes that the following accounting policies are the most critical in fully understanding and evaluating our reported financial results as they require a higher degree of judgment in their application resulting from the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. See Note 2 to our audited Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for details of all of our material accounting policies.

These policies may need to be revised in the future in the event that changes to our business occur.

## Impairment Assessment of Goodwill

We allocate the cost of acquired companies to the identifiable tangible and intangible assets and liabilities acquired, with the remaining amount being classified as goodwill. Our future operating performance will be affected by the potential impairment charges related to goodwill. Goodwill is not amortized, but reviewed for impairment annually, or more frequently if impairment indicators arise. Impairment of goodwill in excess of amounts allocable to identifiable assets and liabilities is determined using a two-step approach, initially based on a comparison of the fair value of the reporting unit to the book value of its net assets; if the fair value of the reporting unit is lower than the book value of its net assets, then the second step compares the implied fair value of the Company's goodwill with its carrying value to measure the amount of the impairment. The Company has one reporting unit for the purpose of assessing potential goodwill impairment and has selected September 30 as its annual goodwill impairment testing date. The process of evaluating the potential impairment of goodwill and intangible assets is highly subjective and requires significant judgment at many points during the analysis.

Our test for potential goodwill impairment is a two-step approach. We estimate the fair value of the Company based on its market capitalization plus a control premium and compare this to the carrying value of its net assets. Control premium assumptions require judgment and actual results may differ from assumed or estimated amounts. If the carrying value of the Company's net assets exceeds its estimated fair value, the second step of the goodwill impairment analysis requires us to measure the amount of the impairment loss. An impairment loss is calculated by comparing the implied fair value of the goodwill to its carrying amount. To calculate the implied fair value of goodwill, the fair value of the Company's net assets, excluding goodwill, is estimated. The excess of the fair value of the Company's net assets over the carrying value of its net assets, excluding goodwill, is the implied fair value of the Company's goodwill.

At September 30, 2016, the Company's market capitalization was \$1,121.3 million (based on a share price of \$7.17) compared to its carrying value of \$1,397.3 million. The Company's market capitalization plus a control premium of 25% resulted in a fair value equal to its carrying value. The Company reviewed merger transactions in North America over \$25 million in the nine months to September 30, 2016, global deals between public companies of more than \$100 million in the last three years and global marine transport sector transactions of more than \$100 million in the last five years and observed average control premiums (based on the one month average share price before the bid) of approximately 40%, 32% and 39%, respectively. Based on a range of 32% to 40% and the average control premium of 39% for global marine transport sector deals, the Company believes that a control premium of 25% is reasonable and that the Company's control premium will be equal, or higher, than this amount. The Company concluded that it was not required to complete the second step of the goodwill impairment analysis and so no goodwill impairment was indicated.



At December 31, 2016, the Company's market capitalization was \$1,207.3 million (based on a share price of \$7.11) compared to its carrying value of \$1,499.8 million. The Company's market capitalization plus a control premium of 24% resulted in a fair value equal to its carrying value. The Company concluded that it was not required to complete the second step of the goodwill impairment analysis and so no goodwill impairment was indicated.

If our share price declines or if our control premium declines, the first step of our goodwill impairment analysis may fail. Our closing share price on February 28, 2017 was \$6.91. Control premium assumptions require judgement and actual results may differ from assumed or estimated amounts. Events or circumstances may occur that could negatively impact our stock price, including changes in our anticipated revenues and profits and our ability to execute on our strategies. In addition, our control premium could decline due to changes in economic conditions in the shipping industry or more generally in the financial markets. An impairment could have a material effect on our consolidated balance sheet and results of operations.

## Revenue and expense recognition

Revenues and expenses are recognized on the accruals basis. Revenues are generated from voyage charters, time charters and a finance lease. Voyage revenues are recognized ratably over the estimated length of each voyage and, therefore, are allocated between reporting periods based on the relative transit time in each period. Voyage expenses are recognized as incurred. Probable losses on voyages are provided for in full at the time such losses can be estimated. Time charter revenues are recorded over the term of the charter as a service is provided. When the time charter is based on an index, the Company recognizes revenue when the index has been determined. The Company uses a discharge-to-discharge basis in determining percentage of completion for all spot voyages and voyages servicing contracts of affreightment whereby it recognizes revenue ratably from when product is discharged (unloaded) at the end of one voyage to when it is discharged after the next voyage. However, the Company does not recognize revenue if a charter has not been contractually committed to by a customer and the Company, even if the vessel has discharged its cargo and is sailing to the anticipated load port on its next voyage.

Revenues and voyage expenses of the vessels operating in pool arrangements are pooled and the resulting net pool revenues, calculated on a time charter equivalent basis, are allocated to the pool participants according to an agreed formula on the basis of the number of days a vessel operates in the pool. The pool participants are responsible for paying voyage expenses. Adjustments between the pool participants are settled on a quarterly basis. Pool revenues are reported as voyage charter revenues for all periods presented.

Rental payments from the Company's sales-type lease are allocated between lease service revenue, lease interest income and repayment of net investment in leases. The amount allocated to lease service revenue is based on the estimated fair value, at the time of entering the lease agreement, of the services provided which consist of ship management and operating services.

## Vessels and equipment

The cost of the vessels less estimated residual value is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the vessels' estimated remaining economic useful lives. The estimated economic useful life of the Company's vessels is 25 years. Other equipment is depreciated over its estimated remaining useful life, which approximates five years. The residual value for owned vessels is calculated by multiplying the lightweight tonnage of the vessel by the market price of scrap per tonne. The market price of scrap per tonne is calculated as the 10 year average, up to the date of delivery of the vessel, across the three main recycling markets (Far East, Indian sub-continent and Bangladesh). Residual values are reviewed annually.

## Vessel Impairment

The carrying values of the Company's vessels may not represent their fair market value at any point in time since the market prices of second-hand vessels tend to fluctuate with changes in charter rates and the cost of newbuildings. Historically, both charter rates and vessel values tend to be cyclical. The carrying amounts of vessels held and used by the Company and newbuildings are reviewed for potential impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a particular vessel may not be fully recoverable. Such indicators may include depressed spot rates and depressed second hand tanker values. In such instances, an impairment charge would be recognized if the estimate of the undiscounted future cash flows expected to result from the use of the vessel and its eventual disposition is less than the vessel's carrying amount. The impairment charge is measured as the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the estimated fair value. This assessment is made at the individual vessel level as separately identifiable cash flow information for each vessel is available.

In developing estimates of future cash flows, the Company must make assumptions about future performance, with significant assumptions being related to charter rates, ship operating expenses, utilization, drydocking requirements, residual value, the estimated remaining useful lives of the vessels and the probability of lease terminations for vessels held under capital lease. These assumptions are based on historical trends as well as future expectations. Specifically, in estimating future charter rates, management takes into consideration rates currently in effect for existing time charters and estimated daily time charter equivalent rates for each vessel class for the unfixed days over the estimated remaining lives of each of the vessels. The estimated daily time charter equivalent rates used for unfixed days are based on a combination of (i) internally developed forecasts, and (ii) the trailing seven year historical average rates, based on quarterly average rates published by an independent third party maritime research service. Recognizing that the transportation of crude oil is cyclical and subject to significant volatility based on factors beyond the Company's control, management believes the use of estimates based on the combination of internally forecast rates and seven year historical average rates calculated as of the reporting date to be reasonable.

Estimated outflows for operating expenses and drydocking requirements are based on historical and budgeted costs and are adjusted for assumed inflation. Finally, utilization is based on historical levels achieved and estimates of a residual value are consistent with the pattern of scrap rates used in management's evaluation of salvage value.

The more significant factors that could impact management's assumptions regarding time charter equivalent rates include (i) loss or reduction in business from significant customers, (ii) unanticipated changes in demand for transportation of crude oil and dry bulk cargoes, (iii) changes in production of or demand for oil, generally or in particular regions, (iv) greater than anticipated levels of tanker newbuilding orders or lower than anticipated levels of tanker scrappings, and (v) changes in rules and regulations applicable to the tanker industry, including legislation adopted by international organizations such as IMO and the EU or by individual countries. Although management believes that the assumptions used to evaluate potential impairment are reasonable and appropriate at the time they were made, such assumptions are highly subjective and likely to change, possibly materially, in the future. There can be no assurance as to how long charter rates and vessel values will remain at their current low levels or whether they will improve by a significant degree. If charter rates were to remain at depressed levels future assessments of vessel impairment would be adversely affected.

In June 2016, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its six MR tankers for an aggregate price of \$172.5 million to an unaffiliated third party. Five of these vessels were delivered by the Company in August and September 2016 and the final vessel was delivered in November 2016. The Company recorded an impairment loss of \$18.2 million in 2016 in respect of these vessels.

In May 2016, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1998-built VLCC Front Vanguard. The charter was terminated in July 2016. The Company agreed to a compensation payment to Ship Finance of \$0.4 million for the termination of the charter and recorded an impairment loss of \$7.3 million in the three months ended June 30, 2016.

In the three months ended September, 2016, the Company recorded an impairment loss of \$8.9 million in respect of three vessels leased in from Ship Finance - the 1997-built Front Ardenne, the 1998-built Front Brabant and the 1998-built Front Century - based on a 25% probability assumption of terminating the vessel's lease before its next dry dock. This impairment loss included \$5.6 million in respect of Front Century.

In November 2016, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for Front Century upon the sale and delivery of the vessel to a third party. The charter was terminated in March 2017. The Company has agreed a compensation payment to Ship Finance of approximately \$4.0 million for the termination of the charter and recorded an impairment loss of \$27.3 million in the three months ended December 31, 2016 based on a 100% probability assumption of terminating the vessel's lease before its next dry dock.

#### Our Fleet – Comparison of Possible Excess of Carrying Value Over Estimated Charter-Free Market Value of Certain Vessels

In "Critical Accounting Policies – Vessel Impairment" we discuss our policy for impairing the carrying values of our vessels. During the past few years, the market values of vessels have experienced particular volatility, with substantial declines in many vessel classes. As a result, the charter-free market value, or basic market value, of certain of our vessels may have declined below those vessels' carrying value, even though we did not impair those vessels' carrying value under our accounting impairment policy, due to our belief that future undiscounted cash flows expected to be earned by such vessels over their operating lives would exceed such vessels' carrying amounts.

Our estimates of basic market value assume that our vessels are all in good and seaworthy condition without need for repair and, if inspected, would be certified in class without notations of any kind. Our estimates are based on the estimated market values for our vessels that we have received from independent ship brokers and are inherently uncertain. In addition, vessel values are highly volatile; as such, our estimates may not be indicative of the current or future basic market value of our vessels or prices that we could achieve if we were to sell them.

The table set forth below indicates the carrying value of each of our owned vessels as of December 31, 2016 and 2015. As of December 31, 2016, December 31, 2015 and the date of this annual report, we were not holding any of the vessels listed in the table below as held for sale. We believe that the future undiscounted cash flows expected to be earned by those vessels, which have experienced a decline in charter-free market value below such vessels' carrying value, over their operating lives would exceed such vessels' carrying values as of December 31, 2016, and accordingly, have not recorded an impairment charge.

Carrying Value  
at Dec 31

		Approximate	2016	2015
	Built	Dwt.		
VLCCs				
Front Kathrine*	2009	297,000	61.8	64.7
Front Queen*	2009	297,000	62.1	64.8
Front Eminence*	2009	321,300	62.8	65.6
Front Endurance*	2009	321,300	62.8	65.6
Front Cecilie*	2010	297,000	65.7	68.4
Front Signe*	2010	297,000	65.8	68.6
Front Duke	2016	300,000	83.2	—
Suezmax tankers				
Front Ull*	2014	156,000	61.5	63.8
Front Idun*	2015	156,000	63.5	65.8
Front Thor*	2010	156,000	46.9	49.0
Front Loki*	2010	156,000	46.9	49.0
Front Odin*	2010	156,000	47.1	49.2
Front Njord*	2010	156,000	47.2	49.3
Front Balder*	2009	156,000	45.0	47.0
Front Brage*	2011	156,000	47.9	49.9
Front Crown*	2016	156,000	59.6	—
Front Challenger*	2016	157,000	59.6	—
Aframax/LR2 tankers				
Front Lion	2014	115,000	41.6	43.1
Front Puma	2015	115,000	41.9	43.4
Front Panther	2015	115,000	41.7	43.2
Front Tiger	2015	115,000	41.8	43.2
Front Ocelot	2016	111,000	45.2	—
Front Cheetah	2016	115,000	44.3	—
Front Lynx	2016	111,000	44.6	—
Front Cougar	2016	115,000	44.7	—
Front Leopard	2016	111,000	45.1	—
Front Jaguar	2016	111,000	45.8	—
Front Altair*	2016	111,000	50.8	—
MR tankers				
Front Arrow	2013	50,000	—	32.2
Front Avon	2013	50,000	—	32.0
Front Clyde	2014	50,000	—	32.2
Front Dee	2014	50,000	—	32.1
Front Esk	2014	50,000	—	31.9
Front Mersey	2014	50,000	—	32.2
			1,476.9	1,186.2

\* We believe the basic charter-free market value at December 31, 2016 for each vessel marked with an asterisk in the table above is lower than the vessel's carrying value. We believe that the aggregate carrying value of these vessels exceeds their aggregate basic charter-free market value by approximately \$137.7 million. We refer you to the risk factor entitled "Because the market value of our vessels may fluctuate significantly, we may incur losses when we sell vessels which may adversely affect our earnings, or could cause us to incur impairment charges".

#### Impairment of Marketable Securities

We regularly review our marketable securities for impairment. For equity securities that we do not intend to sell and it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security before recovery of our carrying value, we evaluate qualitative criteria to determine whether an other-than-temporary impairment exists, such as the financial health of and specific prospects for the company and the industry sector in which it operates, the length of time and magnitude of the amount of the unrealized loss position.

#### Factors Affecting our Results

The principal factors which affect the results of our continuing operations and financial position include:

- the earnings of our vessels;
- other operating gains and losses;
- contingent rental income or expense;
- vessel operating expenses;
- administrative income and expenses;
- impairment losses on vessels and vessels held under capital lease;
- depreciation;
- interest expense;
- impairment losses and unrealized gains and losses on marketable securities;
- gains and losses on derivatives; and
- share of results from associated company and gain on equity interest.

We have derived our earnings from time charters, voyage charters, pool arrangements and a finance lease. As of December 31, 2016, 36 of our 49 vessels, which are owned or leased in by us, were employed in the voyage charter market. The tanker industry has historically been highly cyclical, experiencing volatility in profitability, vessel values and freight rates. In particular, freight and charter rates are strongly influenced by the supply of tanker vessels and the demand for oil transportation services.

Other operating (losses) gains relate to (i) gains arising on the cancellation of newbuilding contracts, which are considered to be contingent gains, and are recognized when the gain is virtually certain which is generally on a cash basis, (ii) losses arising on the cancellation of newbuildings which are accounted for when the contracts are cancelled, (iii) gains and losses on the sale of newbuilding contracts, which are recognized when we are reasonably assured that substantially all of the risks of the newbuilding contract have been transferred (iv) gains and losses on the termination of capital leases before the expiration of the lease term, which are accounted for by removing the carrying value of the asset and obligation, with a gain or loss recognized for the difference. Gains and losses on the termination of leases are accounted for when the lease is terminated and the vessel is redelivered to the owners and (v) gains and losses on the sale of vessels, which are recognized when the vessel has been delivered and all risks have been transferred and are determined by comparing the proceeds received with the carrying value of the vessel.

Contingent rental income or expense results from the Company's capital leases, which were acquired as a result of the Merger. Any variations in the estimated profit share expense that was included in the fair valuation of these lease

obligations on the date of the Merger as compared to actual profit share expense incurred is accounted for as contingent rental income or expense.

Operating costs are the direct costs associated with running a vessel and include crew costs, vessel supplies, repairs and maintenance, drydockings, lubricating oils and insurance.

Administrative expenses are comprised of general corporate overhead expenses, including personnel costs, property costs, legal and professional fees and other general administrative expenses. Personnel costs include, among other things, salaries, pension costs, fringe benefits, travel costs and health insurance.

An impairment loss on a vessel or a vessel held under capital lease, equal to the difference between the vessel's carrying value and fair value, is recognized when the estimated future net undiscounted cash flows are less than the carrying value of the vessel.



Depreciation, or the periodic costs charged to our income for the reduction in usefulness and long-term value of our vessels, is also related to the number of vessels we own or lease. We depreciate the cost of vessels we own, less their estimated residual value, over their estimated useful life on a straight-line basis. We depreciate the cost of vessels held under capital lease over the term of the lease. No charge is made for depreciation of vessels under construction until they are delivered.

Interest expense relates to vessel specific debt facilities and capital leases. Interest expense depends on our overall borrowing levels and may significantly increase when we acquire vessels or on the delivery of newbuildings. Interest incurred during the construction of a newbuilding is capitalized in the cost of the newbuilding. Interest expense may also change with prevailing interest rates, although the effect of these changes may be reduced by interest rate swaps or other derivative instruments.

An impairment loss on a marketable security is recorded in the Consolidated Statement of Operations when the mark-to-market fair value loss is determined to be other than temporary.

None of the Company's interest rate and bunker swaps qualify for hedge accounting and changes in fair values are recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Share of results from associated company and gain on equity interest relates to Frontline 2012's investment in Avance Gas.

Lack of Historical Operating Data for Vessels before their Acquisition (other than those acquired in a Business Combination)

Consistent with shipping industry practice, other than inspection of the physical condition of the vessels and examinations of classification society records, there is no historical financial due diligence process when we acquire vessels. Accordingly, we do not obtain the historical operating data for the vessels from the sellers because that information is not material to our decision to make acquisitions, nor do we believe it would be helpful to potential investors in our ordinary shares in assessing our business or profitability. Most vessels are sold under a standardized agreement, which, among other things, provides the buyer with the right to inspect the vessel and the vessel's classification society records. The standard agreement does not give the buyer the right to inspect, or receive copies of, the historical operating data of the vessel. Prior to the delivery of a purchased vessel, the seller typically removes from the vessel all records, including past financial records and accounts related to the vessel. In addition, the technical management agreement between the seller's technical manager and the seller is automatically terminated and the vessel's trading certificates are revoked by its flag state following a change in ownership.

Consistent with shipping industry practice, we treat the acquisition of a vessel (whether acquired with or without charter) as the acquisition of an asset rather than a business. Although vessels are generally acquired free of charter, we have agreed to acquire (and may in the future acquire) some vessels with time charters. Where a vessel has been under a voyage charter, the vessel is delivered to the buyer free of charter. It is rare in the shipping industry for the last charterer of the vessel in the hands of the seller to continue as the first charterer of the vessel in the hands of the buyer. In most cases, when a vessel is under time charter and the buyer wishes to assume that charter, the vessel cannot be acquired without the charterer's consent and the buyer's entering into a separate direct agreement with the charterer to assume the charter. The purchase of a vessel itself does not transfer the charter, because it is a separate service agreement between the vessel owner and the charterer. When we purchase a vessel and assume a related time charter, we must take the following steps before the vessel will be ready to commence operations:

- obtain the charterer's consent to us as the new owner;
- obtain the charterer's consent to a new technical manager;

- in some cases, obtain the charterer's consent to a new flag for the vessel;
- arrange for a new crew for the vessel;
- replace all hired equipment on board, such as gas cylinders and communication equipment;
- negotiate and enter into new insurance contracts for the vessel through our own insurance brokers;
- register the vessel under a flag state and perform the related inspections in order to obtain new trading certificates from the flag state;
- implement a new planned maintenance program for the vessel; and
- ensure that the new technical manager obtains new certificates for compliance with the safety and vessel security regulations of the flag state.

Inflation

Although inflation has had a moderate impact on our vessel operating expenses and corporate overheads, management does not consider inflation to be a significant risk to direct costs in the current and foreseeable economic environment. It is anticipated that insurance costs, which have risen over the last three years, may well continue to rise moderately over the next few years. Oil transportation is a specialized area and the number of vessels is increasing. There will therefore be an increased demand for qualified crew and this has and will continue to put inflationary pressure on crew costs. However, in a shipping downturn, costs subject to inflation can usually be controlled because shipping companies typically monitor costs to preserve liquidity and encourage suppliers and service providers to lower rates and prices in the event of a downturn.

Year ended December 31, 2016 compared with the year ended December 31, 2015

Total operating revenues and voyage expenses and commission

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Voyage charter revenues	502,284	331,388	170,896	51.6
Time charter revenues	226,058	121,091	104,967	86.7
Finance lease interest income	2,194	577	1,617	280.2
Other income	23,770	5,878	17,892	304.4
Total operating revenues	754,306	458,934	295,372	64.4

Voyage expenses and commissions 161,641 109,706 51,935 47.3

Time charter revenues increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$45.8 million due to the results of two Suezmax tankers and five VLCCs, which were acquired upon the Merger, as such 2016 includes 12 months of their results whereas 2015 includes only one month,

- an increase of \$39.3 million due to the delivery of three Aframax/LR2 tankers and seven Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings onto time charter between February 2015 and September 2016,

- an increase of \$24.2 million due to the delivery of three Suezmax tankers onto time charter in January, February, and October 2016, the delivery of two Suezmax tanker newbuildings in August and September 2016 and the purchase of two Suezmax tankers in March 2015,

- an increase of \$37.3 million due to the delivery of five VLCCs onto time charter between January and November 2016 along with the delivery of a VLCC newbuilding in September 2016, and

- an increase of \$11.1 million due to the delivery of two chartered-in MR tankers onto time charter in May 2015 and July 2015.

These factors were partially offset by:

- a decrease of \$43.6 million due to the delivery of one VLCC tanker, two MR tankers and two Suezmax tankers onto voyage charters between April 2015 and July 2016, and

- a decrease of \$9.2 million due to the redelivery of two chartered-in Aframax/LR2 tankers in June and December 2016.

Voyage charter revenues increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$192.2 million due to the results of four Suezmax tankers and nine VLCCs, which were acquired upon the Merger, as such 2016 includes 12 months of their results whereas 2015 includes only one month,

- an increase of \$52.5 million due to the delivery of four VLCCs onto voyage charter between November 2015 and July 2016,

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an increase of \$35.2 million due to the delivery of five Suezmax tankers and two Suezmax newbuildings onto voyage charters between April and October 2016,  
• an increase of \$33.7 million due to the delivery of three Aframax/LR2 tankers and one Aframax/LR2 newbuilding onto voyage charters between June 2015 and June 2016, and  
• an increase of \$8.2 million due to the delivery of two chartered-in MR tankers and one chartered-in VLCC onto voyage charter in July, October and November 2016.

These factors were partially offset by:

- a decrease of \$36.0 million due to the redelivery of five chartered-in MR tankers between September 2015 and April 2016,
- a decrease of \$34.2 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax tankers onto time charter in January and February 2016,
- a decrease of \$31.6 million due to the delivery of two VLCCs onto time charter in January, April and November 2016,
- a decrease of \$22.5 million due to the delivery of three Aframax/LR2 tankers onto time charter between February 2015 and February 2016,
- a decrease of \$21.1 million due to the disposal of five MR tankers in August and September 2016, and
- a decrease of \$5.6 million due to a decrease in market rates.

Finance lease interest income relates to the investment in finance lease, which was acquired upon the Merger. The increase in 2016 is attributable to the impact of a full year's results in 2016 as compared to one month in 2015.

The increase in other income in 2016 as compared to 2015 is primarily due to the impact of the Merger, therefore 2016 includes 12 months of other income whereas 2015 includes only one month of other income. Other income in 2016 primarily comprises income earned from the commercial management of related party and third party vessels and newbuilding supervision fees derived from related parties and third parties. Other income in 2015 relates to yard commissions received in the period following the de-consolidation of Knightsbridge Shipping Limited (renamed Golden Ocean Group Limited on March 31, 2015) relating to newbuildings sold to Knightsbridge by Frontline 2012.

Voyage expenses and commissions increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$72.1 million due to the results of six Suezmax tankers and fourteen VLCCs, which were acquired upon the Merger, as such 2016 includes 12 months of voyage expenses whereas 2015 includes only one month,
- an increase of \$14.4 million due to the delivery of eight Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings and one VLCC newbuilding between March 2015 and September 2016,
- an increase of \$5.7 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax tanker newbuildings in August 2016 and the purchase of two Suezmax tankers in March 2015,
- an increase of \$9.4 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax tankers and one VLCC onto voyage charters in November 2015, April 2016 and July 2016, and
- an increase of \$2.8 million due to the delivery of two chartered-in MR tankers and one chartered-in VLCC onto voyage charter in July, October and November 2016.

These factors were partially offset by:

- a decrease of \$11.4 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax tankers onto time charter in January and February 2016,
- a decrease of \$10.0 million due to the delivery of three VLCC tankers onto short term time charters between April and November 2016,
- a decrease of \$8.4 million due to the delivery of three Aframax/LR2 tankers onto time charter in February and February 2016,
- a decrease of \$12.6 million due to the redelivery of five chartered-in MR tankers between December 2015 and July 2016,
- a decrease of \$5.3 million due to the disposal of six MR tankers between August and October 2016, and
- a decrease of \$4.8 million primarily due to a decrease in bunker prices.

Other operating (losses) gains

Change

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(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	\$	%
(Loss) gain on cancellation of newbuilding contracts	(2,772)	30,756	(33,528 )	(109.0)
Gain on sale of newbuilding contracts	—	78,167	(78,167 )	(100.0)
Gain on lease termination	89	—	89	100.0
	(2,683)	108,923	(111,606)	(102.5)

See Note 10 to our audited Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Contingent rental income

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(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Contingent rental income	(18,621)	—	(18,621)	100.0

Contingent rental income in 2016 relates to the charter party contracts with Ship Finance and is due to the fact that the actual profit share expense in the year of \$50.9 million was \$18.6 million less than the amount accrued in the lease obligation payable when the leases were recorded at fair value at the time of the Merger.

#### Ship operating expenses

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Ship operating expenses	119,515	64,357	55,158	85.7

Ship operating expenses are the direct costs associated with running a vessel and include crew costs, vessel supplies, repairs and maintenance, dry docking expenses, lubricating oils and insurance.

Ship operating expenses increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$49.0 million due to fourteen VLCCs and four Suezmax tankers, which were acquired upon the Merger, as such 2016 includes 12 months of their operating expenses whereas 2015 includes only one month,
- an increase of \$14.4 million due to the delivery of eleven Aframax/LR2 newbuildings between March 2015 and December 2016,
- an increase of \$2.5 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax newbuildings in August 2016 and the purchase of two second hand Suezmax tankers in March 2015, and
- an increase of \$0.7 million due to the delivery of one VLCC newbuilding in September 2016.

These factors were partially offset by:

- a decrease of \$0.3 million in dry docking expenses due to five vessels docking in 2015 compared with four vessels in 2016.
- a general decrease in other operating expenses of \$11.2 million.

#### Charter hire expense

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Charter hire expense	67,846	43,387	24,459	56.4

Charter hire expense increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$38.8 million relating to three VLCC and two Suezmax tankers chartered-in between January and November 2016, and
- an increase of \$7.8 million relating to four MR tankers chartered-in between May 2015 and October 2016.

These factors were partially offset by a decrease of \$20.1 million due to the redelivery of three MR tankers and three Aframax/LR2 tankers between December 2015 and December 2016.

#### Impairment loss on vessels and vessels held under capital lease

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%

Impairment loss on vessels and vessels held under capital lease 61,692 — 61,692 100.0

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In May 2016, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the 1998-built VLCC Front Vanguard. The charter was terminated in July 2016. The Company has agreed a compensation payment to Ship Finance of \$0.4 million for the termination of the charter and recorded an impairment loss of \$7.3 million in the three months ended June 30, 2016.

In June 2016, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its six MR tankers for an aggregate sale price of \$172.5 million to an unaffiliated third party. Five of these vessels were delivered by the Company in August and September 2016 and the final vessel was delivered in November 2016. The Company recorded an impairment loss of \$18.2 million in respect of these vessels in the three months ended June 30, 2016 .

In the three months ended September, 2016, the Company recorded an impairment loss of \$8.9 million in respect of three vessels leased in from Ship Finance. This impairment loss included \$5.6 million in respect of the 1998-built VLCC Front Century

In November 2016, the Company agreed with Ship Finance to terminate the long term charter for the Front Century upon the sale and delivery of the vessel to a third party. The charter was terminated in March 2017. The Company has agreed a compensation payment to Ship Finance of approximately \$4.0 million for the termination of the charter and recorded an impairment loss of \$27.3 million in the three months ended December 31, 2016.

#### Provision for uncollectible receivable

(in thousands of \$)			Change	
	2016	2015	\$	%
Provision for uncollectible receivable	4,000	—	4,000	100.0

In 2016, the Company made a provision of \$4.0 million against a receivable, which was acquired as a result of the Merger and was subject to Court proceedings, following developments in those Court proceedings.

#### Administrative expenses

(in thousands of \$)			Change	
	2016	2015	\$	%
Administrative expenses	37,026	10,582	26,444	249.9

Administrative expenses increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to the increased size of the Company following the Merger and newbuilding supervision costs in 2016, which are recharged to related parties. Amounts recharged to related parties are recorded as Other Income.

#### Depreciation

(in thousands of \$)			Change	
	2016	2015	\$	%
Depreciation	141,043	52,607	88,436	168.1

Depreciation expense increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$82.0 million due to six Suezmax tankers and fourteen VLCCs, which were acquired upon the Merger, as such 2016 includes 12 months of their depreciation whereas 2015 includes only one month,
- an increase of \$10.8 million due to the delivery of eleven Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings, two Suezmax newbuildings and one VLCC newbuilding between February 2015 and September 2016,
- an increase of \$0.8 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax tankers in March 2015, and
- an increase of \$0.2 million due to the capitalization of additional de-rating costs on four Suezmax tankers.

These factors were partially offset by a decrease of \$3.6 million due to the disposal of six MR tankers between August and November 2016.

Interest income

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	Change			
(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	\$	%
Interest income	367	47	320	680.9

Interest income 2016 and 2015 relates solely to interest received on bank deposits.

#### Interest expense

	Change			
(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	\$	%
Interest expense	(56,687)	(17,621)	(39,066)	(221.7)

Interest expense increased in 2016 as compared to 2015 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$32.1 million in finance lease interest expense due to two Suezmax tankers and twelve VLCCs held under capital leases that were acquired upon the Merger, as such 2016 includes 12 months of their finance lease interest expense whereas 2015 includes only one month,
- an increase of \$6.5 million as a result of additional borrowings between April 2015 and September 2016,
- an increase of \$0.6 million in amortization of deferred charges through the sale of the six MR tankers
- an increase of \$0.9 million in amortization of deferred charges due to the new term loan facility signed in December 2015, and
- an increase of \$0.8 million on loan interest expense and amortization of deferred charges as a result of the Merger.

These factors are partially offset by a decrease of \$1.8 million due to the increase in the capitalization of newbuilding loan interest expense and decrease in loan interest on the MR tankers, which were disposed of.

#### Share of results from associated company and gain on equity interest

	Change			
(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	\$	%
Share of results of associated company and gain on equity interest	—	2,727	(2,727)	(100.0)

Share of results from associated company in 2015 relates to Frontline 2012's share of results of Avance Gas.

#### Impairment loss on marketable securities

	Change			
(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	\$	%
Impairment loss on marketable securities	(7,233)	(10,507)	3,274	31.2

An impairment loss of \$2.4 million was recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2016, in respect of the mark to market loss on the Golden Ocean shares that was determined to be other than temporary in view of the significant fall in rates in the Baltic Dry Index and the short to medium term prospects for the dry bulk sector.

An impairment loss of \$4.6 million was recorded in the six months ended June 30, 2016 and an impairment loss of \$0.3 million was recorded in the three months ended September 30, 2016, in respect of the mark to market loss on the Avance Gas shares that was determined to be other than temporary in view of the significant fall in rates and the short to medium term prospects for the LPG sector.

The impairment loss on shares in 2015 relates to the shares held in Golden Ocean.

A loss of \$1.1 million was incurred in the period from March 31, 2015 (being the date of de-consolidation of Golden Ocean) to June 26, 2015 (being the date of Frontline 2012's stock dividend of Golden Ocean shares). A total loss of \$41.7 million was incurred in this period, of which \$1.1 million was allocated to continuing operations and \$40.6 million was allocated to discontinued operations based on the number of Golden Ocean shares that were divided and retained.

A loss of \$9.4 million was incurred as a result of (i) the mark to market loss on the Golden Ocean shares held by Frontline 2012 in the period from June 26 through December 31, 2015, and (ii) the mark to market loss on the Golden Ocean shares that were acquired upon the Merger. An impairment loss was recorded in both cases as it was determined that the loss was other than temporary in view of the significant fall in rates in the Baltic Dry Index.

#### Other income (expenses)

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Foreign currency exchange losses	9	134	(125 )	(93.3 )
Gain (loss) on derivatives	3,718	(6,782)	10,500	154.8
Other non-operating income	204	320	(116 )	(36.3 )

The gain on derivatives in 2016 relates to a gain on interest rate swaps of \$1.9 million and a gain on bunker swaps of \$1.8 million. The loss on derivatives in 2015 relates to a loss on interest rate swaps of \$4.5 million and a loss on bunker swaps of \$2.3 million.

The decrease in other non-operating income in 2016 as compared to 2015 relates to a decrease in dividends received from Ship Finance and Avance Gas.

#### Net loss from discontinued operations

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Net loss from discontinued operations	—	(131,006)	131,006	100.0

The loss from discontinued operations in 2015 relates to the operations of Golden Ocean. In June 2015, Frontline 2012 paid a stock dividend consisting of 75.4 million Golden Ocean shares. This stock dividend was deemed to trigger discontinued operations presentation of the results of Golden Ocean as it represented a strategic shift that had a major effect on Frontline 2012's financial and operational results. The results of operations and balance sheet of Golden Ocean were included within the dry bulk segment in prior periods. The loss in 2015 primarily relates to (i) a \$62.5 million impairment loss on five vessels owned by Golden Ocean, (ii) a \$40.6 million impairment loss on the shares held in Golden Ocean, (iii) a \$14.9 million share of Golden Ocean's losses between March 31, 2015, being the date of de-consolidation of Golden Ocean and June 26, 2015 being the date of the stock dividend, and (iv) a net loss of \$13.2 million for Golden Ocean in the period it was consolidated between January 1 and March 31, 2015.

#### Net (income) loss attributable to non-controlling interest

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	Change	
			\$	%
Net (income) loss attributable to non-controlling interest	(504 )	30,244	(30,748)	(101.7)

Net income attributable to non-controlling interest in 2016 is attributable to the non-controlling interest in the results of Seateam. The net loss attributable to non-controlling interest in 2015 primarily relates to the non-controlling interest in the results of Golden Ocean.

Year ended December 31, 2015 compared with the year ended December 31, 2014

#### Total operating revenues and voyage expenses and commission

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Voyage charter revenues	331,388	202,283	129,105	63.8
Time charter revenues	121,091	37,928	83,163	219.3
Finance lease interest income	577	—	577	100.0
Other income	5,878	1,615	4,263	264.0
Total operating revenues	458,934	241,826	217,108	89.8
Voyage expenses and commissions	109,706	103,708	5,998	5.8

Voyage charter revenues increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$40.0 million due to Frontline 2012 chartering in five MR tankers in March, April, May and July 2015, one of which was redelivered to owners in December 2015,
- an increase of \$31.7 million due to five Suezmax tankers and ten VLCCs acquired upon the Merger,
  - an increase of \$21.1 million due to the delivery of three Aframax/LR2 tankers in January 2014, March 2015 and June 2015, two of which commenced time charters in February and August 2015,
- an increase of \$20.2 million due to an increase in market rates,
- an increase of \$19.4 million due to the delivery of four MR tankers onto voyage charters (in January, March, April and June 2014) and one VLCC onto voyage charter in January 2014,
- an increase of \$0.8 million due to a decrease in off-hire and commercial waiting time.

These factors were partially offset by a decrease of \$4.1 million due to the delivery of one MR tanker onto time charter in April 2015.

Time charter revenues increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$23.9 million due to three Aframax/LR2 tankers chartered-in in January 2015 on existing time charters,
- an increase of \$17.8 million due to the purchase of two Suezmax tankers in March 2015,
- an increase of \$12.5 million due to the transfer of two Aframax/LR2 tankers from spot trade,
- an increase of \$10.1 million due to an increase in market rates on index linked time charters in relation to two Suezmax tankers,
- an increase of \$9.4 million due to two Suezmax tankers and five VLCCs acquired upon the Merger trading on time charters,
- an increase of \$7.3 million due to the delivery of one Aframax/LR2 tanker directly from the yard onto time charter, and
- an increase of \$7.0 million due to the delivery of three MR tanker onto time charter in April, November and December 2015,

These factors were partially offset by a decrease of \$4.5 million due to the delivery of four MR tankers onto voyage charters (in January, March, April and June 2014) and one VLCC onto voyage charter in January 2014.

The finance lease interest income in 2015 relates to the investment in finance lease that was acquired upon the Merger.

The increase in other income in 2015 as compared to 2014 is primarily due to the effect of the Merger and the income earned from the commercial management of related party and third party vessels and newbuilding supervision fees derived from related parties and third parties.

Voyage expenses and commissions increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$14.0 million due to Frontline 2012 chartering in five MR tankers between March and July 2015, one of which was redelivered to owners in December 2015,
- an increase of \$7.8 million due to the delivery of four Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings between September 2014 and June 2015,
- an increase of \$7.7 million due to seven Suezmax tankers and fourteen VLCCs acquired upon the Merger,
- an increase of \$1.0 million due to the reduction in off-hire and waiting days, an increase in consumption due to an increase in vessel speed, plus additional commissions as a result of higher charter rates, and

an increase of \$0.7 million due to the purchase of two secondhand Suezmax tankers in March 2015

These factors were partially offset by a decrease of \$25.8 million primarily due to lower bunker prices.

Other operating gains

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Gain on cancellation of newbuilding contracts	30,756	68,989	(38,233)	(55.4)
Gain on sale of newbuilding contracts	78,167	—	78,167	100.0
	108,923	68,989	39,934	57.9

See Note 10 to our audited Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Ship operating expenses

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Ship operating expenses	64,357	49,607	14,750	29.7

Ship operating expenses are the direct costs associated with running a vessel and include crew costs, vessel supplies, repairs and maintenance, dry dockings, lubricating oils and insurance.

Ship operating costs increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to:

an increase of \$7.2 million due to the delivery of four Aframax/LR2 newbuildings between September 2014 and June 2015,

an increase of \$5.1 million due to 14 VLCCs and seven Suezmax tankers acquired upon the Merger,

an increase of \$4.9 million due to the purchase of two secondhand Suezmax tankers in March 2015, and

an increase of \$0.7 million due to the delivery of four MR tankers between January and March 2014.

These factors were partially offset by a \$1.6 million decrease in dry docking expenses (while five vessels were dry docked in each of 2014 and 2015) and a general decrease in other operating expenses of \$1.5 million.

Charter hire expense

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Charter hire expense	43,387	—	43,387	100.0

Charter hire expense in 2015 comprises (i) \$23.5 million relating to three Aframax/LR2 tankers chartered-in in January 2015, (ii) \$9.3 million relating to two MR tankers chartered-in in March 2015, and (iii) \$10.6 million relating to three MR tankers chartered-in in April, May and July 2015.

Administrative expenses

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Administrative expenses	10,582	4,943	5,639	114.1

Administrative expenses increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to legal and professional fees incurred in connection with the Merger and the subsequent impact of the combined company for one month.



Depreciation

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(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Depreciation	52,607	31,845	20,762	65.2

Depreciation expense increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$12.4 million due to seven Suezmax tankers and 14 VLCCs acquired upon the Merger,
- an increase of \$4.5 million due to the delivery of four Aframax/LR2 tanker newbuildings between September 2014 and June 2015,
- an increase of \$3.2 million due to the delivery of two Suezmax tankers in March 2015,
- an increase of \$0.4 million due to the delivery of four MR tanker newbuildings between January 2014 and March 2014, and
- an increase of \$0.3 million due to the capitalization of additional de-rating costs on four Suezmax tankers.

#### Interest income

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Interest income	47	118	(71)	(60.2)

Interest income 2015 and 2014 relates solely to interest received on bank deposits.

#### Interest expense

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Interest expense	(17,621)	(7,421)	(10,200)	(137.4)

Interest expense increased in 2015 as compared to 2014 primarily due to:

- an increase of \$4.1 million due to the reduction in the capitalization of newbuilding loan interest expense,
- an increase of \$3.6 million as a result of additional borrowings in 2015,
- an increase of \$3.4 million due to two Suezmax tankers and twelve VLCCs held under capital leases that were acquired upon the Merger,
- an increase of \$0.7 million due to the accelerated amortization of the remaining deferred charges on various of the Companies term loan facilities, which were refinanced during December 2015,
- an increase of \$0.5 million as a result of the interest charged on the notes payable to Ship Finance, which were issued following the early termination of the leases on the Front Comanche, Front Commerce, Front Opalia, Golden Victory and Front Champion,
- an increase of \$0.3 million on the amortization of deferred charges primarily as a result of the upside in the \$136.5 million loan facility to \$466.5 million, and
- an increase of \$0.3 million on loan interest expense and amortization of deferred charges as a result of the Merger.

These factors were partially offset by:

- a decrease of \$0.4 million due to the cancellation of the newbuilding contract J0025 and associated debt, and
- a decrease of \$2.3 million due to the quarterly repayments made on the Company's various loan facilities.

#### Gain on sale of shares

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%

Gain on sale of shares — 16,850 (16,850) (100.0)

The gain on sale of shares resulted from the disposal of 2,854,985 Avance Gas shares in April 2014.

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## Share of results of associated company and gain on equity interest

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Share of results of associated company and gain on equity interest	2,727	16,064	(13,337)	(83.0)

In 2015, Frontline 2012 recognized earnings of \$2.7 million from its investment in Avance Gas up to the date of its stock dividend of Avance Gas shares in March 2015, at which time Frontline 2012 stopped accounting for the investment as an equity method investment as it no longer had significant influence over Avance Gas.

In 2014, Frontline 2012 recognized earnings of \$10.1 million from its investment in Avance Gas and a gain of \$5.9 million on dilution of its ownership in Avance Gas following a private placement in April 2014, in which Frontline 2012 did not participate.

## Impairment loss on marketable securities

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Impairment loss on marketable securities	(10,507)	—	(10,507)	(100.0)

The impairment loss on marketable securities in 2015 relates to the shares held in Golden Ocean.

A loss of \$1.1 million was incurred in the period from March 31, 2015 (being the date of de-consolidation of Golden Ocean) to June 26, 2015 (being the date of Frontline 2012's stock dividend of Golden Ocean shares). A total loss of \$41.7 million was incurred in this period, of which \$1.1 million was allocated to continuing operations and \$40.6 million was allocated to discontinued operations based on the number of Golden Ocean shares that were dividdened and retained.

A loss of \$9.4 million was incurred as a result of (i) the mark to market loss on the Golden Ocean shares held by Frontline 2012 in the period from June 26 through December 31, 2015, and (ii) the mark to market loss on the Golden Ocean shares that were acquired upon the Merger. An impairment loss was recorded in both cases as it was determined that the loss was other than temporary in view of the significant fall in rates in the Baltic Dry Index.

## Other income (expenses)

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Foreign currency exchange gains	134	18	116	(644.4)
Loss on derivatives	(6,782)	(8,779)	1,997	(22.7)
Other non-operating items, net	320	(148)	468	316.2

The loss on derivatives in 2015 and 2014 primarily relates to interest rate swap agreements. The loss in 2015 also includes a loss of \$2.3 million on bunker swap agreements that were acquired upon the Merger.

The increase in other non-operating income in 2015 as compared to 2014 relates to an increase in dividends received from Ship Finance and Avance Gas.

## Net loss from discontinued operations

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Net loss from discontinued operations	(131,006)	(51,159)	(79,847)	(156.1)

The loss from discontinued operations in 2015 and 2014 relates to the operations of Golden Ocean. In June 2015, Frontline 2012 paid a stock dividend consisting of 75.4 million Golden Ocean shares. This stock dividend was deemed to trigger discontinued operations presentation of the results of Golden Ocean as it represented a strategic shift that had a major effect on Frontline 2012's financial and operational results. The results of operations and balance sheet of Golden Ocean were included within the dry bulk segment in prior periods.

The loss in 2015 primarily relates to (i) a \$62.5 million impairment loss on five vessels owned by Golden Ocean, (ii) a \$40.6 million impairment loss on the shares held in Golden Ocean, (iii) a \$14.9 million share of Golden Ocean's losses between March 31, 2015, being the date of de-consolidation of Golden Ocean and June 26, 2015 being the date of the stock dividend, and (iv) a net loss of \$13.2 million for Golden Ocean in the period it was consolidated between January 1 and March 31, 2015.

The loss in 2014 primarily relates to (i) a \$149.5 million goodwill impairment loss following Frontline 2012's impairment assessment at December 31, 2014, which was triggered by the significant fall in rates per the Baltic Dry Index and the significant fall in Golden Ocean's share price in the fourth quarter, and (ii) \$1.0 million of operating losses of Golden Ocean, net of finance costs, in the period it was consolidated between September and December 2014. These items were partially offset by (i) a \$74.8 million gain on sale of newbuilding contracts to Golden Ocean in April 2014, (ii) a gain of \$24.4 million arising on the revaluation of the investment in Golden Ocean upon the commencement of consolidation, and (iii) a \$0.3 million share of results of Golden Ocean when equity accounted for between April and September 2014.

Net loss attributable to non-controlling interest

(in thousands of \$)	2015	2014	Change	
			\$	%
Net loss attributable to non-controlling interest	30,244	63,214	(32,970)	(52.2)

Net loss attributable to non-controlling interest primarily relates to the non-controlling interest in the results of Golden Ocean.

Recent accounting pronouncements

See Note 3 to our audited Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

## B. LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We operate in a capital intensive industry and have historically financed our purchase of tankers and other capital expenditures through a combination of cash generated from operations, equity capital and borrowings from commercial banks. Our ability to generate adequate cash flows on a short and medium term basis depends substantially on the trading performance of our vessels in the market. Historically, market rates for charters of our vessels have been volatile. Periodic adjustments to the supply of and demand for oil and product tankers causes the industry to be cyclical in nature. We expect continued volatility in market rates for our vessels in the foreseeable future with a consequent effect on our short and medium term liquidity.

Our funding and treasury activities are conducted within corporate policies to increase investment returns while maintaining appropriate liquidity for our requirements. Cash and cash equivalents are held primarily in U.S. dollars with some balances held in British pounds, Euros, Norwegian kroner and Singapore dollars.

Our short-term liquidity requirements relate to payment of operating costs (including drydocking), funding working capital requirements, repayment of debt financing, payment of newbuilding installments, lease payments for our chartered-in fleet, contingent rental expense and maintaining cash reserves against fluctuations in operating cash flows. Sources of short-term liquidity include cash balances, short-term investments and receipts from our customers. Revenues from time charters are generally received monthly or fortnightly in advance while revenues from voyage charters are received upon completion of the voyage.

As of December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$202.4 million, \$264.5 million and \$235.8 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, we had restricted cash balances of \$0.7 million, \$0.4 million and \$35.8 million, respectively. In January 2014, Frontline 2012 received \$139.2 million from Avance Gas, a then equity investee, in connection with the agreed sale of eight VLGC newbuildings to Avance Gas immediately following their delivery to Frontline 2012 from the yard. This receipt was placed in a restricted account to be used for installments to be paid by Frontline 2012, past and future construction supervision costs and it also included a profit element to be transferred to cash and cash equivalents on delivery of each newbuilding. The balance on this account at December 31, 2014 of \$35.8 million, was classified as short-term restricted cash as all vessels were expected to be delivered in 2015. Restricted cash does not include cash balances of \$49.6 million (2015: \$40.3 million), which are required to be maintained by the financial covenants in our loan facilities, or cash balances of \$26.0 million (2015: \$28.0 million), which are required to be maintained by our vessel leasing agreements with Ship Finance, as these amounts are included in Cash and cash equivalents.

As of December 31, 2016, the remaining commitments for our sixteen newbuilding contracts amounted to \$684.1 million, all of which is payable in 2017. In February 2017, the Company acquired two VLCC newbuildings under construction at DSME at a net purchase price of \$77.5 million each. The vessels are due for delivery in September and October 2017. The Company has committed bank financing to partially finance all of its remaining newbuilding contracts as of December 31, 2016 and has initiated a dialogue with banks to partially finance the two DSME newbuildings.

Other significant transactions subsequent to December 31, 2016, impacting our cash flows include;

- the declaration of a dividend of \$0.15 per share to be paid on or around March 23, 2017,
- the purchase of 10,891,009 ordinary shares of DHT Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: DHT), or DHT, for \$46.1 million.

We believe that cash on hand and borrowings under our current and expected credit facilities will be sufficient to fund our requirements for, at least, the twelve months from the date of this annual report.

#### Medium to Long-term Liquidity and Cash Requirements

Our medium and long-term liquidity requirements include payment of newbuilding installments, funding the equity portion of investments in new or replacement vessels and repayment of bank loans. Additional sources of funding for our medium and long-term liquidity requirements include new loans, refinancing of existing arrangements, equity issues, public and private debt offerings, vessel sales, sale and leaseback arrangements and asset sales.

#### Cash Flows

The following table summarizes our cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities for the periods indicated.

(in thousands of \$)	2016	2015	2014
Net cash provided by operating activities	286,015	207,346	58,641
Net cash used in investing activities	(396,752)	(459,279)	(63,509)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	48,615	219,512	(45,936)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(62,122)	(32,421)	(50,804)
Net change in cash balances included in held for distribution	—	61,144	(61,144)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	264,524	235,801	347,749
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	202,402	264,524	235,801

#### Net cash provided by operating activities

Net cash provided by operating activities in the year ended December 31, 2016 was \$286.0 million compared with \$207.3 million in the year ended December 31, 2015. Our reliance on the spot market contributes to fluctuations in cash flows from operating activities as a result of its exposure to highly cyclical tanker rates. Any increase or decrease in the average TCE rates earned by our vessels in periods subsequent to December 31, 2016, compared with the actual TCE rates achieved during 2016, will have a positive or negative comparative impact, respectively, on the amount of cash provided by operating activities. We estimate that average daily total cash cost break even TCE rates for the remainder of 2017 will be approximately \$22,300, \$17,300 and \$15,500 for our owned and leased VLCCs, Suezmax tankers, and Aframax/LR2 tankers, respectively. These are the daily rates our vessels must earn to cover budgeted operating costs, estimated interest expenses and scheduled loan principal repayments, bareboat hire and corporate overhead costs in 2017. These rates do not take into account capital expenditures and contingent rental expense.



Net cash used in investing activities

Net cash used in investing activities of \$396.8 million in 2016 comprised mainly of additions to newbuildings, vessels and equipment of \$622.5 million, of which most was in respect of 25 newbuilding contracts, ten of which were delivered during the year. This amount was partially offset by;

• a refund of \$43.5 million in respect of four VLCC newbuilding contracts, which were cancelled in October 2016,  
• sale proceeds of \$173.2 million, primarily in respect of the six MR tankers sold during the year, and  
• finance lease payments received of \$9.3 million in respect of the investment in finance lease that was acquired upon the Merger.

Net cash used in investing activities of \$459.3 million in 2015 comprised mainly of:

- newbuilding installment payments of \$685.0 million,
- \$100.0 million to paid to acquire two Suezmax tankers,
- \$1.8 million for upgrading costs on four Suezmax tankers and
- cash used in investing activities of discontinued operations of Golden Ocean of \$310.8 million.

This was partially offset by;

- restricted cash net inflows of \$35.7 million, which is mainly attributable to the reclassification of \$35.8 million of advance sale proceeds from Avance Gas in connection with the agreed sale of eight VLGC newbuildings as cash and cash equivalents,
- refunds of newbuilding installments and interest of \$58.8 million, in aggregate, in respect of newbuilding contracts that were cancelled by Frontline 2012,
  - sale proceeds of \$456.4 million received from Avance Gas in connection with the sale of eight VLGC newbuildings to Avance Gas immediately following their delivery to Frontline 2012 from the yard. This amount is in addition to \$139.2 million, which was received in advance in 2014, and
- cash of \$87.4 million acquired upon the Merger.

Net cash used in investing activities of \$63.5 million in 2014 comprised mainly of:

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