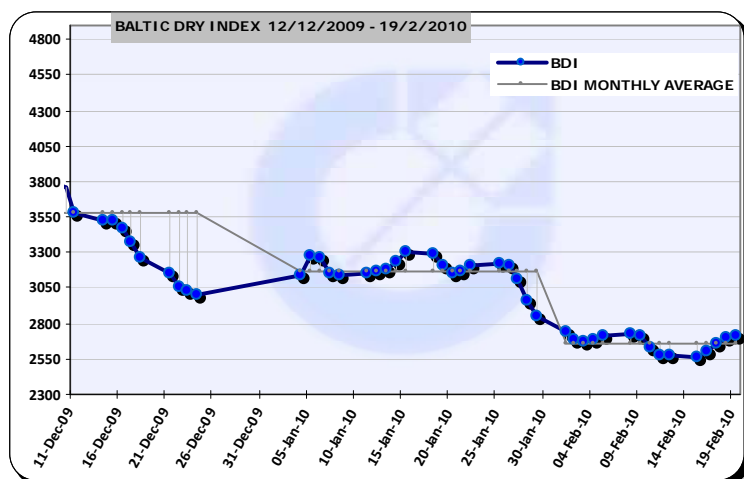


## 7<sup>th</sup> Week - Dry Cargo Market "Highlights" – 15/2/2010 until 19/2/2010



The *Baltic Dry Index* closed on Friday the 19th of February 2010 improving over the 2,500 point mark it has been oscillating, at **2714** points with an overall loss of **5.56%** or **143** points. (Last Friday's the 12nd of February 2010 closing value was **2571** points). Midweek upward correction reduced the impact of the weekly drop.

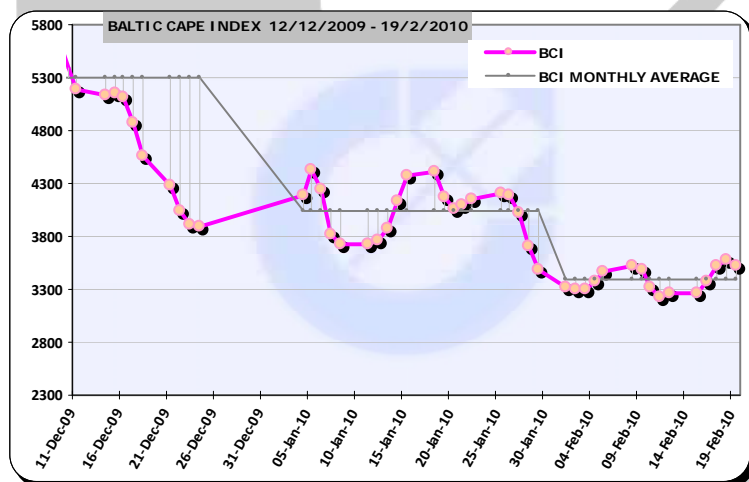
Chinese Holidays, have caused the slowdown in the market, and although the index ended up positively the whole two weeks that the Far East was "feasting" and although the fireworks are still going... we expect that slowly business mainly from Chinese buyers will pick up again during early March 2010. It is normal that Chinese players having slowed down their Sale and Purchase activities have practically brought the market

to a halving of deals...! Greeks have dominated these past two weeks, and our only hope to regain the number one seat in terms of volume and deals done is to get the Chinese to celebrate their New Year every day...!!!

Crude Oil has rallied in concert with stocks. The prior week found Crude prices down to 69.50. Last week saw prices back up to 79.95. Gold and Silver also rebounded from their lows of the prior week. In Gold, the high of the week was realized on Wednesday, but Silver continued higher in to Friday. However, currencies did not fare too well against the Dollar. The Euro currency, for instance, traded below 1.3500 during the day on Friday. This is most unusual, for precious metals and currencies tend to move together. But now, we see them decoupling. Gold and Silver are moving up against all currencies, which suggest something may be developing on the geopolitical front that is causing investors of all nations to demand more Gold and Silver. Maybe that something has to do with the progress of nuclear development in Iran. (*Star IQ*)

In summary form: (week 03) BDI, **gain, 5.56%**, BCI, **gain, 7.92%**, BPI, **gain, 4.99%**, BSI, **gain, 1.42%**, BHI, **gain, 1.64%**

### CAPE SIZE MARKET



■ The *Baltic Cape Index (BCI)* closed on Friday the 19th of February 2010 well below the 3,500k mark, at **3517** points posing a **gain** of **7.92%** or **258** points over previous week's closing on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> February which was **3259** points.

China imported 16.07 million tons of coal in January, nearly five and a half times the amount it imported in January 2008, according to the statistics released by the General Administration of Customs of China. In December last year, China's coal imports hit a record 16.38 million tons. China's coal exports last month decreased 50% year on year to 1.82 million tons, said customs. The decrease in coal exports was mainly attributed to the global financial turmoil, which weakened industrial demand for coal, according to an

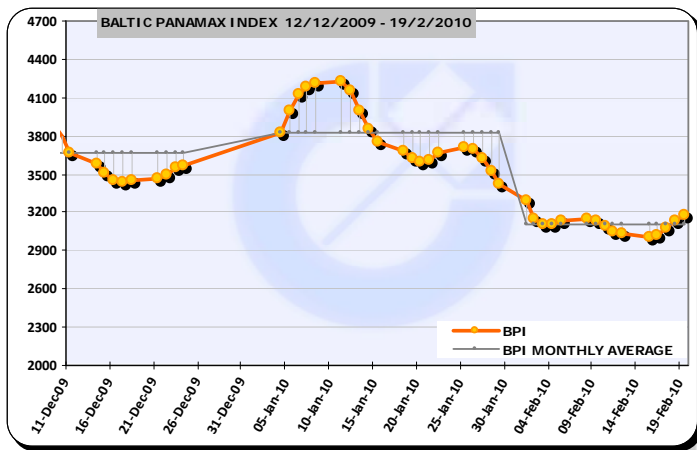
earlier report from China Knowledge. (*China Knowledge*)

The yearly average of the BCI currently stands at **3761**. The Capesize T/C average rate from this week T/C fixtures despite the drop in the index, went up by **5.75%**, still well below the 40k mark at **\$30,272**. Previous week's T/C figure was **\$28,625**. A good number always considering for the cape sector of **seven (7)** units of capesize vessel size were fixed on T/C this week. The daily rates as seen in our fixtures report for was **reduced** over last week from **\$28,000** (M/V "Pitsa D", 170188 dwt, built 2002, dely Nantong 17/20 Feb, redely Japan, \$28000, NSS, for a trip via EC Australia) up to **\$41,000** (M/V "Bulk Australia", 170578 dwt, built 2002, dely Fujairah 24/26 Feb, redely worldwide, \$41000, Oldendorff, for a 5/7 mos trading).

In "absence" of Chinese buyers... the M/V "*Cape Olive*" 167k/96 built sold for \$28m to undisclosed Greek buyers.

### PANAMAX MARKET

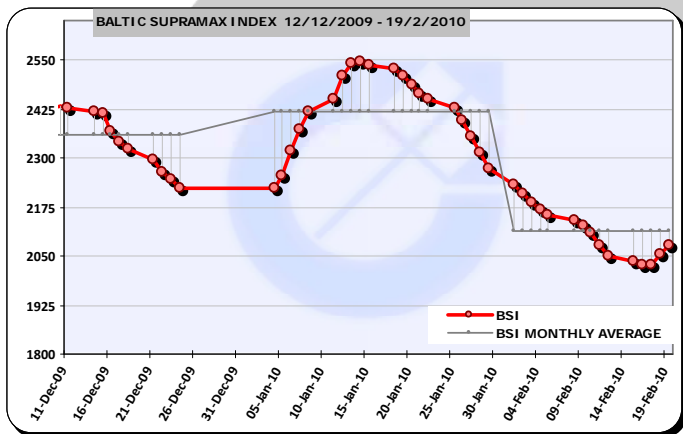
■ The *Baltic Panamax Index (BPI)* closed on Friday the 19th of February 2010 just above the 3,000 point mark at **3179** with represents a **gain** of **4.99%** or **151** points compared to **3028** points which was last Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010 closing. The Yearly average of the BPI currently stands at **3517** points. The Panamax T/C average rate went up by **0.21%** to **\$25,947** from



\$25,892 which was last week's Panamax T/C average. A low number of only **fourtyfive (45)** Panamax vessels were being chartered this week on Period and T/C's. The daily rates as seen in our separate fixtures report for Panamaxes this week, with slightly **reduced** levels compared to last week ranged from **\$14,000** (M/V "Fu May", 76015 dwt, built 2002, dely Lumut 16/18 Feb, redely USEC, \$14000, Klaveness, for a trip via Indonesia) up to **\$35,500** for the (M/V "Cyclades", 75681 dwt, built 2000, dely retro Aughinish 14 Feb, redely Singapore-Japan rge, \$35500, NYG, for a trip via US Gulf)

The M/V "F.D. Salvatore Pollo", 74.4k/07 built Hudong China, and the M/V "F.D. Gennaro Aurilia", 74.4k/07 built Hudong China was sold both to Undisclosed Italian buyers for \$37mil each unit this week (Including a 3 or 5 year T/C at either \$21,000 or \$20,000 per day, the "Anna A", 65k/81 built NKK Japan was sold to Chinese buyers for \$5.6mil, and the M/V "Captain George L", 64k/84 built Denmark was sold for \$7mil to undisclosed Greek Buyers.

### SUPRAMAX MARKET

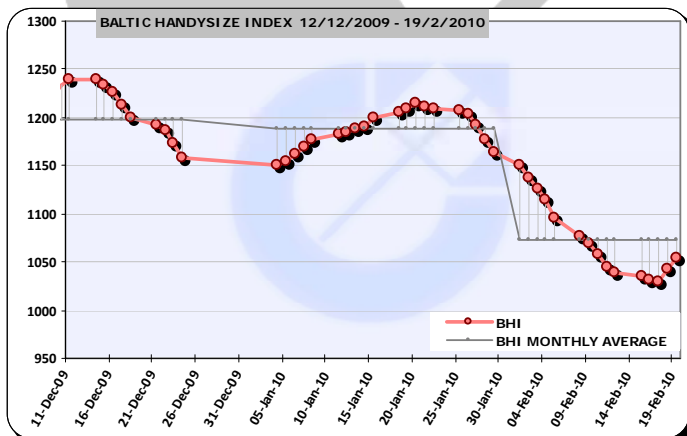


■ The **Baltic Supramax Index (BSI)**, closed on Friday the 19th of February 2010, at **2077** points a **gain of 1.42%** or **29** points based on the previous **2048** points we had last Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010 closing. The yearly average for the BSI currently stands at **2287** points. For this week the Supramax Time Charter average rate calculated by NCSC is up at **\$26,586** or **0.57%** based on **\$26,436** which was last week's Supramax average.

Once more we were above last week's average, **thirteen (13)** Supramaxes were on T/C this week. The daily rates in the fixtures reported this week, for Supramaxes were **reduced** over last week and ranged from **\$11,000** (M/V "Malathi", 55707 dwt, built 2005, dely Lanshan 23/28 February, redely India, \$11000, Crossbridge, for a trip via Indonesia) up to **\$37,000** (M/V "Maritime Newanda", 55820 dwt, built 2005, dely Mumbai 24/28 February, redely China, \$37000, Chart Not Rep, for a trip via West Coast India).

The M/V "Tomahawk" 57k/09 Qingshan and the sister M/V "Vale" 57k/09 Qingshan built were sold for \$31.5mil each unit to Clients of Nasco of China.

### HANDYSIZE MARKET



■ The **Baltic Handysize index (BHI)** is falling steeply over the past 2-3 weeks. It has not had a single day correcting, and all days from the 25<sup>th</sup> of Jan it has gone downhill. It closed on Friday the 19th of February 2010 with a drop at **1055** points and this represents a percentage gain of **1.64%** or a gain of **17** points. The yearly average for the BHI currently stands at **1139** points. This week's Handysize Time Charter that is calculated by NCSC went up marginally by **8.00%** this week to **\$25,071** from **\$23,214** which was last week's average.

A lower than the usual average number of **seven (7)** only Handymax vessel were reported on T/C this week with their weekly T/C daily rates for Handy sized vessels ranging on **improved** levels than last week from **\$10,250** (M/V "Sattar", 43419 dwt, built 1992, dely Lanshan 24/28 February, redely Pakistan, \$10250, Shadab, for a trip via Indonesia) up to **\$36,000** (M/V "Mathios", 46678 dwt, built 1996, dely USGulf early March, redely Singapore--Japan approx, \$36000, WBC, for a trip).

The M/V "Aviona" 41k/85 Hayashikane Japan sold for \$8.5mil to Undisclosed buyers, the M/V "Yick Zao" 39k/83 built Hayashikane Japan, sold for \$5.5 mil to Chinese Buyers, the M/V "Yick Lee" 40k/82 built Hayashikane Japan sold for slightly less due to her one year older age \$5mil to Chinese buyers, the M/V "Ocean Leader" 27k/87 built Hakodate Japan sold for \$6mil to undisclosed buyers. Also we saw an interesting resale from Hakodate shipyard, a 31.9k 2010 built with 4x30t cranes, sold to Greek buyers (clients of Union Commercial) for \$28.5mil (understand from our NB records vessel was contracted by Blumenthal in Feb 2007, for approx 39mil).

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