Danaos Corp
Form 20-F
March 07, 2018

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 20-F

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

OR

ý	**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934** **FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

OR

o	**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934** **For the transition period from to**

OR

o	**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 001-33060

DANAOS CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Not Applicable

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Republic of The Marshall Islands

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

c/o Danaos Shipping Co. Ltd, Athens Branch
14 Akti Kondyli
185 45 Piraeus
Greece

(Address of principal executive offices)

Evangelos Chatzis
Chief Financial Officer
c/o Danaos Shipping Co. Ltd, Athens Branch
14 Akti Kondyli
185 45 Piraeus
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Telephone: +30 210 419 6480
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(Name, Address, Telephone Number and Facsimile Number 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
Common stock, $0.01 par value per share	New York Stock Exchange
Preferred stock purchase rights	New York Stock Exchange

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

None.

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

None.

As of December 31, 2017, there were 109,799,352 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding.

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

o Yes ý 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.

o Yes ý 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.

ý Yes o 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 (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

ý Yes o No

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

Large accelerated filer o	Accelerated filer o	Non-accelerated filer ý	Emerging growth company o

If an emerging growth company that prepares its financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. o

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

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

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.

o Item 17 o 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).

o Yes ý No

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FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This annual report contains forward-looking statements based on beliefs of our management. Any statements contained in this annual report that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements as defined in Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations and projections about future events, including:

- future operating or financial results;
- pending acquisitions and dispositions, business strategies and expected capital spending;
- operating expenses, availability of crew, number of off-hire days, drydocking requirements and insurance costs;
- general market conditions and shipping market trends, including charter rates, vessel values and factors affecting supply and demand;
- our financial condition and liquidity, including our ability to comply with covenants in our financing arrangements and to service or refinance our outstanding indebtedness;
- our ability to reach an agreement with our lenders to restructure our indebtedness maturing in December 2018;
- performance by our charterers of their obligations;
- the availability of ships to purchase, the time that it may take to construct new ships, or the useful lives of our ships;
- our ability to obtain financing in the future to fund acquisitions and other general corporate activities;
- our continued ability to enter into multi-year, fixed-rate period charters with our customers;
- our ability to leverage to our advantage our manager's relationships and reputation in the containership shipping sector of the international shipping industry;
- changes in governmental rules and regulations or actions taken by regulatory authorities;
- potential liability from future litigation; and
- other factors discussed in "Item 3. Key Information Risk Factors" of this annual report.

The words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "intend," "potential," "may," "plan," "project," "predict," and "should" and similar expressions as they relate to us are intended to identify such forward-looking statements, but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. We may also from time to time make forward-looking statements in our periodic reports that we file with the U.S.

Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") other information sent to our security holders, and other written materials. Such statements reflect our current views and assumptions and all forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations. The factors that could affect our future financial results are discussed more fully in "Item 3. Key Information Risk Factors" and in our other filings with the SEC. We caution readers of this annual report not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of their dates. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements.

PART I

Danaos Corporation is a corporation domesticated in the Republic of The Marshall Islands that is referred to in this Annual Report on Form 20-F, together with its subsidiaries, as "Danaos Corporation," "the Company," "we," "us," or "our." This report should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes thereto, which are included in Item 18 to this annual report.

We use the term "twenty foot equivalent unit," or "TEU," the international standard measure of containers, in describing the capacity of our containerships. Unless otherwise indicated, all references to currency amounts in this annual report are in U.S. dollars.

All data regarding our fleet and the terms of our charters is as of February 28, 2018. As of February 28, 2018, we owned 55 containerships aggregating 327,616 TEU in capacity. Gemini Shipholdings Corporation ("Gemini"), a Marshall Islands company incorporated in August 2015 and beneficially owned 49% by Danaos Corporation and 51% by Virage International Ltd. ("Virage"), a company controlled by Danaos Corporation's largest stockholder, owned an additional four containerships of 23,998 TEU aggregate capacity as of February 28, 2018. We do not consolidate Gemini's results of operations and account for our minority equity interest in Gemini under the equity method of accounting. See "Item 4. Information on the Company Business Overview Our Fleet".

Item 1. Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers

Not Applicable.

Item 2. Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable

Not Applicable.

Item 3. Key Information

Selected Financial Data

The following table presents selected consolidated financial and other data of Danaos Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries for each of the five years in the five year period ended December 31, 2017. The table should be read together with "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects." The selected consolidated financial data of Danaos Corporation as of December 31, 2017 and 2016 and each of the three years ended December 31, 2017 is derived from our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this Form 20-F, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or "U.S. GAAP", and have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers S.A., an independent registered public accounting firm. Our selected consolidated financial data as of December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 and for each of the two years ended December 31, 2014 is derived from our consolidated financial statements not included herein and reflect the retrospective application of the change in accounting principle for deferred finance costs.

Our audited consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, and the

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consolidated balance sheets at December 31, 2017 and 2016, together with the notes thereto, are included in "Item 18. Financial Statements" and should be read in their entirety.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	In thousands, except per share amounts and other data				
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS					
Operating revenues	$ 451,731	$ 498,332	$ 567,936	$ 552,091	$ 588,117
Voyage expenses	(12,587)	(13,925)	(12,284)	(12,974)	(11,770)
Vessel operating expenses	(106,999)	(109,384)	(112,736)	(113,755)	(122,074)
Depreciation	(115,228)	(129,045)	(131,783)	(137,061)	(137,414)
Amortization of deferred drydocking and special survey costs	(6,748)	(5,528)	(3,845)	(4,387)	(5,482)
Impairment loss		(415,118)	(41,080)	(75,776)	(19,004)
Bad debt expense		(15,834)			
General and administrative expenses	(22,672)	(22,105)	(21,831)	(21,442)	(19,458)
Gain/(loss) on sale of vessels		(36)		5,709	(449)
Income/(loss) from operations	187,497	(212,643)	244,377	192,405	272,466
Interest income	5,576	4,682	3,419	1,703	2,210
Interest expense(1)	(86,556)	(82,966)	(84,435)	(95,050)	(106,616)
Other finance expenses(1)	(4,126)	(4,932)	(4,658)	(4,687)	(4,689)
Equity income/(loss) on investments	965	(16,252)	(1,941)		
Other income/(expenses), net	(15,757)	(41,602)	111	422	302
Unrealized and realized losses on derivatives	(3,694)	(12,482)	(39,857)	(98,713)	(126,150)
Total other expenses, net	(103,592)	(153,552)	(127,361)	(196,325)	(234,943)
Net income/(loss)	$ 83,905	$ (366,195)	$ 117,016	$ (3,920)	$ 37,523
PER SHARE DATA					
Basic and diluted earnings/(loss) per share of common stock	$ 0.76	$ (3.34)	$ 1.07	$ (0.04)	$ 0.34
Basic and diluted weighted average number of shares (in thousands)	109,824	109,802	109,785	109,676	109,654
CASH FLOW DATA					
Net cash provided by operating activities	$ 181,073	$ 261,967	$ 271,676	$ 192,181	$ 189,025
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	1,758	(9,379)	(13,292)	11,437	6,087
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	(189,653)	(251,124)	(243,861)	(214,041)	(182,587)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(6,822)	1,464	14,523	(10,423)	12,525
BALANCE SHEET DATA (at year end)					
Total current assets	$ 125,999	$ 135,954	$ 127,570	$ 103,073	$ 126,866
Total assets(1)	2,986,396	3,127,064	3,662,121	3,802,172	4,002,644
Total current liabilities, including current portion of long-term debt	2,379,839	2,566,281	312,145	328,082	369,888
Current portion of long-term debt	2,329,601	2,504,932	269,979	178,116	146,462
Current portion of Vendor financing				46,530	57,388

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	Year Ended December 31,				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	In thousands, except per share amounts and other data				
Long-term debt, net of current portion(1)			2,470,417	2,723,984	2,901,733
Vendor financing, net of current portion				17,837	64,367
Total stockholders' equity	548,705	487,713	841,914	688,149	598,476
Common stock shares outstanding (in thousands)	109,799	109,799	109,782	109,669	109,653
Common stock at par value	1,098	1,098	1,098	1,097	1,097
OTHER DATA					
Number of vessels at period end	55	55	56	56	59
TEU capacity at period end	327,616	329,588	334,239	334,239	345,179
Ownership days	20,075	20,138	20,440	20,406	22,257
Operating days	19,345	19,057	20,239	19,905	20,784

(1) The comparative figures presented give effect to a retrospective application of the change in accounting principle for deferred finance costs as per Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-03 "Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs" ("ASU 2015-03"), which resulted in a reduction of deferred charges, total assets, long-term debt, net and total liabilities by $49,020 and $63,908 as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively and the reclassification of the amortization of deferred finance costs from "Other finance expenses" to "Interest expense" of $15,431 for the year ended December 31, 2013.

In the first quarter of 2009, our board of directors decided to suspend the payment of further cash dividends as a result of market conditions in the international shipping industry. Our payment of dividends is subject to the discretion of our Board of Directors. Our loan agreements and the provisions of Marshall Islands law also contain restrictions that affect our ability to pay dividends and we generally will not be permitted to pay cash dividends under the terms of the bank agreement ("Bank Agreement") and new financing agreements which we entered into in 2011. See "Item 3. Key Information Risk Factors Risks Inherent in Our Business We are generally not permitted to pay cash dividends under our financing arrangements." See "Item 8. Financial Information Dividend Policy."

Capitalization and Indebtedness

The table below sets forth our consolidated capitalization as of December 31, 2017:

- on an actual basis; and
- on an as adjusted basis to reflect, in the period from January 1, 2018 to February 28, 2018, scheduled debt repayments of $36.0 million, of which $32.6 million relates to our Bank Agreement and $3.4 million relates to our Sinosure-CEXIM-Citibank-ABN Amro credit facility.

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Other than these adjustments, there have been no material changes to our capitalization from debt or equity issuances, re-capitalizations, special dividends, or debt repayments as adjusted in the table below between January 1, 2018 and February 28, 2018.

	As of December 31, 2017	
	Actual	**As adjusted**
	(US Dollars in thousands)	
Debt:		
Total debt(1)	$ 2,329,601	$ 2,293,625
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, par value $0.01 per share; 100,000,000 preferred shares authorized and none issued; actual and as adjusted		
Common stock, par value $0.01 per share; 750,000,000 shares authorized; 109,799,352 shares issued and outstanding; actual and as adjusted(2)	1,098	1,098
Additional paid-in capital	546,898	546,898
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(114,076)	(114,076)
Retained earnings	114,785	114,785
Total stockholders' equity	548,705	548,705
Total capitalization	**$ 2,878,306**	**$ 2,842,330**

(1) All of our indebtedness is secured.

(2) Does not include 15 million warrants issued in 2011 to purchase shares of common stock, at an exercise price of $7.00 per share, which we issued to the lenders participating in our comprehensive financing plan. The warrants, which will expire on January 31, 2019, are exercisable solely on a cashless exercise basis.

Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds

Not Applicable.

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RISK FACTORS

Risks Inherent in Our Business

Our business, and an investment in our securities, involves a high degree of risk, including risks relating to the downturn in the container shipping market, which continues to adversely affect the major liner companies which charter our vessels and as well as our earnings, our compliance with our loan covenants and our ability to refinance our indebtedness.

The downturn in the containership market, from which we derive all of our revenues, has severely affected the container shipping industry, including the large liner companies to which we charter our vessels, and has adversely affected our business. The containership market has generally remained weak since declining sharply in 2008 and 2009 and, despite improving modestly in 2017, remains at depressed levels. The benchmark rates have declined in all quoted size sectors, with the benchmark one-year daily rate of a 4,400 TEU Panamax containership, which was $36,000 in May 2008 and $4,150 in December 2016, at $8,000 per day at the end of 2017. The weak charter rates are due to various factors, including the level of global trade, including exports from China to Europe and the United States, and increases in containership capacity. The depressed containership market has affected the major liner companies which charter our vessels, including Hanjin Shipping which cancelled long-term charters for eight of our vessels after it filed for court receivership in September 2016 and Hyundai Merchant Marine ("HMM") with which we agreed to charter modifications in July 2016. Other liner companies have also reported large losses again in 2017, including some of our charterers. The weakness in the containership market also affects the value of our vessels, which follow the trends of freight rates and containership charter rates, and the earnings on our charters, and similarly, affects our cash flows and liquidity. As a result of a decrease in our operating income and charter-attached market value of certain of our vessels caused mainly by the cancellation of our eight charters with Hanjin Shipping, as well as weak conditions prevailing in the containership market, we were in breach of the minimum security cover, consolidated net leverage and consolidated net worth financial covenants contained in our Bank Agreement (as defined below) and our other credit facilities as of December 31, 2017. The extended period of weakness in the containership charter market may continue to have additional adverse consequences for our industry including limited financing for vessel acquisitions and newbuildings, a less active secondhand market for the sale of vessels, additional charterers not performing under, or requesting modifications of, existing time charters and loan covenant defaults. This significant downturn in the container shipping industry could adversely affect our ability to service our debt and other obligations, or to refinance our debt, and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Low containership charter rates and containership vessel values have affected, and any future declines in these rates and values may continue to affect, our ability to comply with various covenants in our credit facilities.

Our credit facilities, which are secured by mortgages on our vessels, require us to maintain specified collateral coverage ratios and satisfy financial covenants, including requirements based on the market value of our containerships, our net worth and consolidated debt to EBITDA. Persistently low containership charter rates, or the failure of our charterers to fulfill their obligations under their charters for our vessels, due to the financial pressure on these liner companies from the significant decreases in demand for the seaborne transport of containerized cargo or otherwise, has adversely affected our ability to comply with covenants in our financing arrangements. The market value of containerships is sensitive to, among other things, changes in the charter markets with vessel values deteriorating in times when charter rates are falling and improving when charter rates are anticipated to rise. The depressed state of the containership charter market has generally adversely affected containership values. Under the agreement ("Bank Agreement") we entered into in the first quarter of 2011 for the restructuring of our then existing credit facilities and certain credit facilities we entered into in January 2011 ("January 2011 Credit Facilities"), the financial covenants in our financing arrangements were reset to levels that gradually tighten over the period through the maturity of these

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financing arrangements in December 2018. As a result of a decrease in our operating income and charter-attached market value of certain of our vessels caused mainly by the cancellation of our eight charters with Hanjin Shipping, as well as weak conditions prevailing in the containership market, we were in breach of the minimum security cover, consolidated net leverage and consolidated net worth financial covenants contained in our Bank Agreement and our other credit facilities as of December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016.

Since we are unable to comply with these financial and other covenants under our credit facilities, our lenders may accelerate our indebtedness and foreclose on the vessels in our fleet, which would impair our ability to continue to conduct our business. Any such acceleration, because of the cross-default provisions in our loan agreements, could in turn lead to additional defaults under our other loan agreements and the consequent acceleration of the indebtedness thereunder and the commencement of similar foreclosure proceedings by our other lenders. If our indebtedness were accelerated in full or in part, it would be difficult in the current financing environment for us to refinance our debt or obtain additional financing and we could lose our vessels if our lenders foreclose upon their liens, which would adversely affect our ability to continue our business.

Substantially all of our approximately $2.3 billion of indebtedness is scheduled to mature by the end of 2018 under our Bank Agreement and other loan agreements and we are in discussions with our lenders to restructure this indebtedness.

Substantially all of our $2.3 billion of indebtedness, as of December 31, 2017, is scheduled to mature by December 31, 2018, all of which has been classified as current liabilities as a result of not having agreed a refinancing of such maturing debt and the breach of certain covenants in our Bank Agreement and other loan agreements. We do not have sufficient cash or other resources, or the ability to obtain sufficient financing, to fund these balloon payments. We have been in extensive discussions with our lenders regarding restructuring our indebtedness, which substantially exceeds the current market value of our containerships and associated charters. We will need to reach an agreement with our lenders to restructure our debt by December 31, 2018 to avoid defaulting on our obligations thereunder, which would have a material adverse effect on our business operations, financial condition and liquidity. Any such agreement, or the failure to reach such an agreement, could involve proceedings under court-supervision and is likely to involve substantial losses and dilution to our stakeholders. The outcome of the discussions with our lenders is uncertain. If we are unable to reach an agreement with our lenders to restructure our indebtedness scheduled to mature in 2018, our lenders may foreclose on our vessels which could impede our ability to continue to operate our business.

Our 2018 debt maturities, inability to comply with certain financial and other covenants under our loan agreements and our working capital deficit raise substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern.

As of February 28, 2018, we have not yet refinanced $2.1 billion of our debt falling due on December 31, 2018. Additionally, as a result of a decrease in our operating income and the charter attached market value of certain of our vessels caused principally by the cancellation of eight charters with Hanjin Shipping in 2016, as well as weak conditions in the containership market, we were in breach of certain financial covenants under our Bank Agreement and our other credit facilities as of December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016. Refer to Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements for further details. We have classified our long-term debt, net of deferred finance costs as current, resulting in total current liabilities amounting to $2,379.8 million, which substantially exceeded our total current assets amounting to $126.0 million as of December 31, 2017. If we are unable to reach an agreement with our lenders to restructure or refinance such loan agreements, or comply with the covenants in our loan agreements, by December 2018 we may default on our obligations thereunder.

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These conditions and events raise substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. The consolidated financial statements included in this report were prepared assuming that we will continue as a going concern. Therefore, the accompanying consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded assets and liabilities, other than the reclassification of long-term debt to current liabilities as described above, or any other adjustments that might result in the event we are unable to continue as a going concern.

We may have difficulty securing profitable employment for our vessels in the currently depressed containership market.

Of our 55 vessels, as of February 28, 2018, 20 are employed on time charters expiring between March 2018 and November 2018. Given the current state of the containership charter market, we may be unable to secure employment for these vessels at attractive rates, or at all, when, if applicable, their charters expire. Although we do not receive any revenues from our vessels while not employed, as was also the case for certain of our vessels for periods in recent years, we are required to pay expenses necessary to maintain the vessel in proper operating condition, insure it and service any indebtedness secured by such vessel. If we cannot re-charter our vessels profitably, our results of operations and operating cash flow will be adversely affected.

We are dependent on the ability and willingness of our charterers to honor their commitments to us for all of our revenues and the failure of our counterparties to meet their obligations under our charter agreements could cause us to suffer losses or otherwise adversely affect our business.

We derive all of our revenues from the payment of charter hire by our charterers. Each of our 55 containerships are currently employed under time or bareboat charters with twelve liner companies, with 92% of our revenues in 2017 generated from five such companies. We could lose a charterer or the benefits of a time charter if:

- the charterer fails to make charter payments to us because of its financial inability, disagreements with us, defaults on a payment or otherwise;
- the charterer exercises certain specific limited rights to terminate the charter;
- we do not take delivery of any newbuilding containership we may contract for at the agreed time; or
- the charterer terminates the charter because the ship fails to meet certain guaranteed speed and fuel consumption requirements and we are unable to rectify the situation or otherwise reach a mutually acceptable settlement.

In 2016 Hanjin Shipping cancelled the charters for eight of our vessels after it filed for court receivership in September 2016 and in July 2016 we agreed to modifications to the charters for 13 of our vessels with HMM with substantial charter rate reductions. We have also contributed to ZIM's past restructurings by agreeing to receive a portion of the charter hire payable under time charters for six of our vessels in the form of long-term notes and ZIM's 2014 agreement with its creditors included a significant reduction in the charter rates payable by ZIM under its time charters, expiring in 2020 or 2021, for six of our vessels and we received unsecured, non-amortizing, interest bearing ZIM notes maturing in 2023 and ZIM shares in exchange for such reductions and cancellation of ZIM's other obligations to us which relate to the previously deferred charter hire.

If we lose a time charter, we may be unable to re-deploy the related vessel on terms as favorable to us or at all. For instance, all of the eight vessels previously chartered to Hanjin Shipping were rechartered on short-term charters at significantly lower rates, after remaining idle for a number of months in the case of the three 10,100 TEU vessels, following Hanjin Shipping's cancellation of the charters. We would not receive any revenues from such a vessel while it remained unchartered, but we may be required to pay expenses necessary to maintain the vessel in proper operating condition, insure it and service any indebtedness secured by such vessel.

Many of the time charters on which we deploy our containerships provide for charter rates that are significantly above current market rates. The ability and willingness of each of our counterparties to perform its obligations under their time charters with us 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 container shipping industry, which has generally experienced weakness with limited recovery since the 2008-2009 economic crisis, and the overall financial condition of the counterparty. Furthermore, the combination of a reduction in cash flow resulting from declines in world trade, a reduction in borrowing bases under credit facilities and the reduced availability of debt and equity financing may result in a significant reduction in the ability of our charterers to make charter payments to us, with a number of large liner companies announcing efforts to obtain third party aid and restructure their obligations, including some of our charterers, in recent years. The likelihood of a charterer seeking to renegotiate or defaulting on its charter with us may be heightened to the extent such customers are not able to utilize the vessels under charter from us, and instead leave such chartered vessels idle. Should a counterparty fail to honor its obligations under agreements with us, it may be difficult to secure substitute employment for such vessel, and any new charter arrangements we secure may be at lower rates given the current situation in the charter market. Gemini, in which we have minority equity investment, faces the same risks with respect to its vessels that it employs on time charters.

If our charterers fail to meet their obligations to us or attempt to renegotiate our charter agreements, as part of a court-supervised restructuring or otherwise, we could sustain significant reductions in revenue and earnings which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, as well as our ability to comply with the covenants and refinance our credit facilities. In such an event, we could be unable to service our debt and other obligations and could ourselves have to restructure our obligations in a court supervised process or otherwise.

We depend upon a limited number of customers for a large part of our revenues. The loss of these customers could adversely affect us.

Our customers in the containership sector consist of a limited number of liner operators. The percentage of our revenues derived from these customers has varied in past years. In the past several years, CMA CGM, Hyundai Merchant Marine, Yang Ming, Hanjin Shipping, China Shipping and ZIM have represented substantial amounts of our revenue. In 2017, approximately 92% of our operating revenues were generated by five customers, while in 2016, approximately 97% of our operating revenues were derived from six customers. As of February 28, 2018, we have charters for sixteen of our vessels with CMA CGM, for ten of our vessels with Yang Ming, for six of our vessels with Hyundai, for six of our vessels with ZIM, for five of our vessels with Cosco, for five of our vessels with Maersk, for three of our vessels with Hapag Lloyd, for two of our vessels with NYK, for one of our vessels with MSC and for one of our vessels with Evergreen. We expect that a limited number of liner companies may continue to generate a substantial portion of our revenues. Some of these liner companies have publicly acknowledged the financial difficulties facing them and reported substantial losses in prior years. In 2016 Hanjin Shipping, from which 10% and 17% of our revenues in 2016 and 2015, respectively, were generated, cancelled the charters for eight of our vessels after it filed for court receivership in September 2016 and in July 2016 we agreed to charter rate reductions under the charters for 13 of our vessels with HMM, from which 31% of our revenues were generated in 2017 and 32% of our revenues were generated in 2016. ZIM's 2014 restructuring agreement with its creditors included a significant reduction in the charter rates payable by ZIM under its time charters, expiring in 2020 or 2021, for six of our vessels. If any of these liner operators cease doing business or do not fulfill their obligations under their charters for our vessels, due to the financial pressure on these liner

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companies from the decreases in demand for the seaborne transport of containerized cargo or otherwise, our results of operations and cash flows, and ability to comply with covenants in our financing arrangements, could be adversely affected. Further, if we encounter any difficulties in our relationships with these charterers, our results of operations, cash flows and financial condition could be adversely affected.

Our profitability and growth depend on the demand for containerships and global economic conditions, and the impact on consumer confidence and consumer spending may continue to affect containerized shipping volume and adversely affect charter rates. Charter hire rates for containerships may continue to experience volatility or remain at depressed levels, which would, in turn, adversely affect our profitability.

Demand for our vessels depends on demand for the shipment of cargoes in containers and, in turn, containerships. The ocean-going container shipping industry is both cyclical and volatile in terms of charter hire rates and profitability. Containership charter rates peaked in 2005 and generally stayed strong until the middle of 2008, when the effects of the economic crisis began to affect global container trade, and in 2008 and 2009 the ocean-going container shipping industry experienced severe declines, with charter rates at significantly lower levels than the historic highs of the prior few years. Containership charter rates have since generally remained weak, with brief periods of limited improvement and subsequent declines, remain well below long-term averages and could remain at depressed levels for an extended period. Variations in containership charter rates result from changes in the supply and demand for ship capacity and changes in the supply and demand for the major products transported by containerships. The factors affecting the supply and demand for containerships and supply and demand for products shipped in containers are outside of our control, and the nature, timing and degree of changes in industry conditions are unpredictable. The slowdown in the global economy and disruptions in the credit markets may continue to reduce demand for products shipped in containers and, in turn, containership capacity.

Factors that influence demand for containership capacity include:

- supply and demand for products suitable for shipping in containers;
- changes in global production of products transported by containerships;
- the distance that container cargo products are to be moved by sea;
- the globalization of manufacturing;
- global and regional economic and political conditions;
- developments in international trade;
- changes in seaborne and other transportation patterns, including changes in the distances over which containerized cargoes are transported and steaming speed of vessels;
- environmental and other regulatory developments; and
- currency exchange rates.

Factors that influence the supply of containership capacity include:

- the number of new building deliveries;

the scrapping rate of older containerships;

the price of steel and other raw materials;

changes in environmental and other regulations that may limit the useful life of containerships;

the number of containerships that are out of service; and

port congestion.

The recovery in consumer confidence and consumer spending has been volatile and remains relatively fragile. Consumer purchases of discretionary items, many of which are transported by sea in containers, generally decline during periods where disposable income is adversely affected or there is economic uncertainty and, as a result, liner company customers may ship fewer containers or may ship containers only at reduced rates. Any such decrease in shipping volume could adversely impact our liner company customers and, in turn, demand for containerships. Such decreases in recent years, led to declines in charter rates and vessel values in the containership sector and increased counterparty risk associated with the charters for our vessels.

Our ability to recharter our containerships upon the expiration or termination of their current charters and the charter rates payable under any renewal or replacement charters will depend upon, among other things, the prevailing state of the charter market for containerships. As of February 28, 2018, the charters for twenty of our vessels expire between March 2018 and November 2018. If the charter market, which currently remains at low levels, is depressed when our vessels' charters expire, we may be forced to recharter the containerships, if we were able to recharter such vessels at all, at sharply reduced rates and possibly at rates whereby we incur a loss. If we were unable to recharter our vessels on favorable terms, we may potentially scrap certain of such vessels, which may reduce our earnings or make our earnings volatile. The same issues will exist if we acquire additional containerships and attempt to obtain multi-year charter arrangements as part of an acquisition and financing plan.

The Bank Agreement in respect of our financing arrangements imposes stringent operating and financial restrictions on us which may, among other things, limit our ability to grow our business and currently effectively prevent us from pursuing opportunities to acquire newbuilding and other recently built containerships that meet the needs of our liner company customers.

Under the terms of the Bank Agreement, our credit facilities and financing arrangements impose more stringent operating and financial restrictions on us than those previously contained in our credit facilities. These restrictions, as described in "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects," generally preclude us from:

- incurring additional indebtedness without the consent of our lenders, except to the extent the proceeds of such additional indebtedness is used to repay existing indebtedness;
- creating liens on our assets, generally, unless for the equitable and ratable benefit of our existing lenders;
- selling capital stock of our subsidiaries;
- disposing of assets without the consent of the lenders with loans collateralized by such assets and, in case of such approval, using the proceeds thereof to repay indebtedness;
- using a significant portion of the proceeds from equity issuances for any purpose other than to repay indebtedness;
- using more than a minimal amount of our free cash from operations for purposes other than repayment of indebtedness;
- engaging in transactions that would constitute a change of control, as defined in such financing agreement, without repaying all of our indebtedness in full;
- paying dividends, absent a substantial reduction in our leverage; or
- changing our manager or certain members of our management.

As a result we have reduced discretion in operating our business and may have difficulty growing our business. In particular, the conditions on the use of equity proceeds and incurrence of indebtedness

effectively prevent us from pursuing opportunities to acquire newbuildings and other recently built containerships that meet the needs of our liner company customers with the resulting risks of a deterioration in our reputation and standing with our customers and a loss of competitive position among other containership owners.

In addition, our respective lenders under these financing arrangements will, at their option, be able to require us to repay in full amounts outstanding under such respective credit facilities, upon a "Change of Control" of our company, which for these purposes and as further described in "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Bank Agreement", includes Dr. Coustas ceasing to be our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Coustas and members of his family ceasing to collectively own over one-third of the voting interest in our outstanding capital stock or any other person or group controlling more than 20% of the voting power of our outstanding capital stock.

The Bank Agreement and our financing arrangements contain financial covenants requiring us to:

- maintain a ratio of (i) the market value of all of the vessels in our fleet, on a charter-inclusive basis, plus the net realizable value of any additional collateral, to (ii) our consolidated total debt above specified minimum levels gradually increasing from 90% through December 31, 2011 to 130% from September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2018. This ratio was required to be 130% as of December 31, 2017;

- maintain a minimum ratio of (i) the market value of the nine vessels (*Maersk Enping (ex Hyundai Smart), Maersk Exeter (ex Hyundai Speed), MSC Ambition (ex Hyundai Ambition), Hyundai Honour (ex Hyundai Together), Hyundai Respect (ex Hyundai Tenacity), Express Athens, Express Rome, Express Berlin* and *CMA CGM Rabelais*) collateralizing the January 2011 Credit Facilities, calculated on a charter-free basis, plus the net realizable value of any additional collateral, to (ii) our aggregate debt outstanding under the January 2011 Credit Facilities of 100% from September 30, 2012 through September 30, 2018;

- maintain minimum free consolidated unrestricted cash and cash equivalents, less the amount of the aggregate variable principal amortization amounts, described above, of $30.0 million at the end of each calendar quarter;

- ensure that our (i) consolidated total debt less unrestricted cash and cash equivalents to (ii) consolidated EBITDA (defined as net income before interest, gains or losses under any hedging arrangements, tax, depreciation, amortization and any other non-cash item, capital gains or losses realized from the sale of any vessel, finance charges and capital losses on vessel cancellations and before any non-recurring items and excluding any accrued interest due to us but not received on or before the end of the relevant period; provided that non-recurring items excluded from this calculation shall not exceed 5% of EBITDA calculated in this manner) for the last twelve months does not exceed a maximum ratio gradually decreasing from 12:1 on December 31, 2010 to 4.75:1 on September 30, 2018. This ratio was required to be 5.5:1 as of December 31, 2017;

- ensure that the ratio of our (i) consolidated EBITDA for the last twelve months to (ii) net interest expense (defined as interest expense (excluding capitalized interest), less interest income, less realized gains on interest rate swaps (excluding capitalized gains) and plus realized losses on interest rate swaps (excluding capitalized losses)) exceeds a minimum level of 1.50:1 through September 30, 2013 and thereafter gradually increasing to 2.80:1 by September 30, 2018. This ratio was required to be 2.5:1 as of December 31, 2017; and

- maintain a consolidated market value adjusted net worth (defined as the amount by which our total consolidated assets adjusted for the market value of our vessels in the water less cash and cash equivalents in excess of our debt service requirements exceeds our total consolidated

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liabilities after excluding the net asset or liability relating to the fair value of derivatives as reflected in our financial statements for the relevant period) of at least $400 million.

The provisions of our KEXIM-ABN Amro credit facility, which is not covered by the Bank Agreement, have been aligned with the above covenants through November 20, 2018 and our Sinosure-CEXIM credit facility has similar financial covenants and a collateral coverage covenant of 125% per tranche as described in "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects."

As of February 28, 2018, we have not yet refinanced $2.1 billion of our debt falling due on December 31, 2018. Additionally, as a result of a decrease in our operating income and charter attached market value of certain of our vessels caused principally by the cancellation of our eight charters with Hanjin Shipping in 2016, as well as weak conditions prevailing in the containership market, we were in breach of the minimum security cover, consolidated net leverage and consolidated net worth financial covenants contained in our Bank Agreement and our other credit facilities as of December 31, 2017 and as of December 31, 2016. If we are unable to meet our payment or covenant compliance obligations under the terms of the Bank Agreement covering our credit facilities or our other financing arrangements, and are unable to reach an agreement with our lenders to obtain compliance waivers or modify or restructure our agreements, our lenders could then accelerate our indebtedness and foreclose on the vessels in our fleet securing those credit facilities, which could result in cross-defaults under our other credit facilities, and the consequent acceleration of the indebtedness thereunder and the commencement of similar foreclosure proceedings by other lenders. The loss of any of these vessels would have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition and could impair our ability to operate our business.

Substantial debt levels could limit our flexibility to obtain additional financing and pursue other business opportunities and our ability to service our outstanding indebtedness will depend on our future operating performance, including the charter rates we receive under charters for our vessels.

As of December 31, 2017, we had outstanding indebtedness of $2.3 billion and, while we have no remaining borrowing availability under our existing loan agreements, we may seek to incur substantial additional indebtedness, as market conditions warrant over the medium to long-term and to the extent permitted by our existing lenders, to grow our fleet. This level of debt could have important consequences to us, including the following:

- our ability to obtain additional financing, if necessary, for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions or other purposes may be impaired or such financing may be unavailable on favorable terms;

- we will need to use substantially all of our free cash from operations, as required under the terms of our Bank Agreement, to make principal and interest payments on our debt, reducing the funds that would otherwise be available for future business opportunities and, if permitted by our lenders and reinstated, dividends to our stockholders;

- our debt level could make us more vulnerable than our competitors with less debt to competitive pressures or a downturn in our business or the economy generally; and

- our debt level may limit our flexibility in responding to changing business and economic conditions.

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Our ability to service our debt will depend upon, among other things, our future financial and operating performance, which will be affected by prevailing economic conditions and financial, business, regulatory and other factors, some of which are beyond our control. In particular, the charter rates we obtain for our vessels, including the twenty vessels with charters expiring between March 2018 and November 2018, and any reductions in contracted charter rates for our vessels and other concessions, such as we agreed in 2014 with ZIM for six of our vessels, such as we agreed in 2016 with Hyundai for thirteen of our vessels or the cancellation of our charters for eight vessels with Hanjin Shipping in 2016 due to its bankruptcy, will have a significant impact on our ability to service our indebtedness. Due to the restrictions on the use of cash from operations and other sources for purposes other than the repayment of indebtedness, even if we otherwise generate sufficient cash flow to service our debt, we may still be forced to take actions such as reducing or delaying our business activities, acquisitions, investments or capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring or refinancing our debt or seeking additional equity capital. We may not be able to effect any of these remedies on satisfactory terms, or at all. In addition, restrictions in the Bank Agreement in respect of our credit facilities and a relative lack of liquidity in the debt and equity markets could hinder our ability to refinance our debt or obtain additional financing on favorable terms in the future.

Disruptions in world financial markets and the resulting governmental action could have a further material adverse impact on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, and could cause the market price of our common stock to decline further.

The global economy has generally improved recently but remains subject to significant downside economic risks, as well as geopolitical risks and the emergence of populist and protectionist political movements in advanced economies may negatively impact global economic growth, disrupt financial markets, and may lead to weaker consumer demand. A slowdown in the global economy may result in a decrease in worldwide demand for products transported by containerships. These issues, along with the re-pricing of credit risk and the difficulties being experienced by some financial institutions have made, and will likely continue to make, it difficult to obtain financing. As a result of the disruptions in the credit markets, the cost of obtaining bank financing has increased as many lenders have increased interest rates, enacted tighter lending standards, required more restrictive terms, including higher collateral ratios for advances, shorter maturities and smaller loan amounts, refused to refinance existing debt at maturity at all or on terms similar to our current debt. Furthermore, certain banks that have historically been significant lenders to the shipping industry have announced an intention to reduce or cease lending activities in the shipping industry. We cannot be certain that financing will be available on acceptable terms or at all. 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. In the absence of available financing, we may be unable to take advantage of business opportunities or respond to competitive pressures, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations.

We face risks attendant to changes in economic environments, changes in interest rates, and instability in the banking and securities markets around the world, among other factors. Major market disruptions and adverse changes in market conditions and the regulatory climate in the United States and worldwide may adversely affect our business or impair our ability to borrow amounts under any future financial arrangements. However, these recent and developing economic and governmental factors, together with the concurrent decline in charter rates and vessel values, may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows, have caused the price of our common stock to decline and could cause the price of our common stock to decline further.

In addition, as a result of the ongoing economic slump in Greece resulting from the sovereign debt crisis and the related austerity measures implemented by the Greek government, our operations in Greece may be subjected to new regulations that may require us to incur new or additional compliance or other administrative costs and may require that we pay to the Greek government new taxes or other

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fees. Furthermore, the change in the Greek government and potential shift in its policies may undermine Greece's political and economic stability, which may adversely affect our operations and those of our manager located in Greece. We also face the risk that strikes, work stoppages, civil unrest and violence within Greece, as well as the capital controls in effect in Greece since mid-2015, may disrupt our shoreside operations and those of our manager located in Greece.

If global economic conditions weaken, particularly in Europe and in the Asia Pacific region, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Global economic conditions impact worldwide demand for various goods and, thus, container shipping. In particular, we anticipate a significant number of the port calls made by our vessels will continue to involve the loading or unloading of containers in ports in the Asia Pacific region. As a result, negative changes in economic conditions in any Asia Pacific country, in particular China which has been one of the world's fastest growing economies in recent years, can have a significant impact on the demand for container shipping. However, if China's pace of growth declines and other countries in the Asia Pacific region experience slower or negative economic growth in the future, this may negatively affect the fragile recovery of the economies of the United States and the European Union, and thus, may negatively impact container shipping demand. For example, the withdrawal of the U.S. from the Transpacific Partnership and the possibility of the introduction of tariffs on selected imported goods mainly from Asia has the potential to provoke retaliation measures from the affected countries which would create new impediments to trade. Risks remaining from the recent recovery in Europe, including the possibility of sovereign debt defaults by European Union member countries, including Greece, and any resulting weakness of the Euro, including against the Chinese renminbi, could adversely affect European consumer demand, particularly for goods imported, many of which are shipped in containerized form, from China and elsewhere in Asia, and reduce the availability of trade financing which is vital to the conduct of international shipping. In addition, the charters that we enter into with Chinese customers, including the charters we currently have with COSCO for five of our vessels, may be subject to new regulations in China that may require us to incur new or additional compliance or other administrative costs and may require that we pay to the Chinese government new taxes or other fees. Changes in laws and regulations, including with regards to tax matters, and their implementation by local authorities could affect our vessels chartered to Chinese customers as well as our vessels calling to Chinese ports and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. Our business, financial condition, results of operations, as well as our future prospects, will likely be materially and adversely affected by an economic downturn in any of these countries.

A decrease in the level of export of goods, in particular from Asia, or an increase in trade protectionism globally, including from the United States, could have a material adverse impact on our charterers' business and, in turn, could cause a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and ability to service or refinance our debt.

Our operations expose us to the risk that increased trade protectionism from the United States or other nations adversely affect our business. Governments may turn to trade barriers to protect or revive their domestic industries in the face of foreign imports, thereby depressing the demand for shipping. Restrictions on imports, including in the form of tariffs, could have a major impact on global trade and demand for shipping. Trade protectionism in the markets that our charterers serve may cause an increase in the cost of exported goods, the length of time required to deliver goods and the risks associated with exporting goods and, as a result, a decline in the volume of exported goods and demand for shipping.

The new U.S. president was elected on a platform promoting trade protectionism and recently proposed large tariffs on steel and aluminum, which has led to threats of retaliatory tariffs from leaders of other countries. These policy pronouncements have created significant uncertainty about the future

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relationship between the United States and China and other exporting countries, including with respect to trade policies, treaties, government regulations and tariffs. On January 23, 2017, the U.S. President signed an executive order withdrawing the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a global trade agreement intended to include the United States, Canada, Mexico, Peru and a number of Asian countries. Protectionist developments, or the perception they may occur, may have a material adverse effect on global economic conditions, and may significantly reduce global trade and, in particular, trade between the United States and other countries, including China.

Our containerships are deployed on routes involving containerized trade in and out of emerging markets, and our charterers' container shipping and business revenue may be derived from the shipment of goods from Asia to various overseas export markets, including the United States and Europe. Any reduction in or hindrance to the output of Asia-based exporters could have a material adverse effect on the growth rate of Asia's exports and on our charterers' business.

Furthermore, the government of China has implemented economic policies aimed at increasing domestic consumption of Chinese-made goods and containing capital outflows. These policies may have the effect of reducing the supply of goods available for exports and the level of international trading and may, in turn, result in a decrease in demand for container shipping. In addition, reforms in China for a gradual shift to a "market economy" including with respect to the prices of certain commodities, are unprecedented or experimental and may be subject to revision, change or abolition and if these reforms are reversed or amended, the level of imports to and exports from China could be adversely affected.

Any new or increased trade barriers or restrictions on trade would have an adverse impact on our charterers' business, operating results and financial condition and could thereby affect their ability to make timely charter hire payments to us and to renew and increase the number of their time charters with us. Such adverse developments could in turn have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flow and our ability to service or refinance our debt.

Demand for the seaborne transport of products in containers has a significant impact on the financial performance of liner companies and, in turn, demand for containerships and our charter counterparty risk.

Demand for the seaborne transportation of products in containers, which is significantly impacted by global economic activity, remains below the levels experienced before the global economic crisis of 2008 and 2009. Consequently, the cargo volumes and freight rates achieved by liner companies, with which all of the existing vessels in our fleet are chartered, have declined sharply, reducing liner company profitability and, at times, failing to cover the costs of liner companies operating vessels on their shipping lines. In response to such reduced cargo volume and freight rates, the number of vessels being actively deployed by liner companies decreased. Approximately 1.8% of the world containership fleet estimated to be out of service at the end of 2017, which was below the 12% high of December 2009 but up from 1.3% at the end of 2014. Moreover, newbuilding containerships with an aggregate capacity of approximately 2.8 million TEUs, representing approximately 13% of the existing global fleet capacity at the end of 2017, were under construction, which may exacerbate the surplus of containership capacity further reducing charterhire rates or increasing the number of unemployed vessels. Many liner companies, including some of our customers, reported substantial losses in 2017 and other recent years, as well as having announced plans to reduce the number of vessels they charter-in and enter into consolidating mergers and cooperative alliances as part of efforts to reduce the size of their fleets to better align fleet capacity with the reduced demand for marine transportation of containerized cargo.

The reduced demand and resulting financial challenges faced by our liner company customers has significantly reduced demand for containerships and may increase the likelihood of one or more of our customers being unable or unwilling to pay us the contracted charterhire rates, such as we agreed with HMM in 2016 and ZIM in 2014 and Hanjin Shipping's cancellation of long-term charters for eight of our vessels in 2016, which are generally significantly above prevailing charter rates, under the charters for our vessels. We generate all of our revenues from these charters and if our charterers fail to meet their obligations to us, we would sustain significant reductions in revenue and earnings, which could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations, as well as our ability to comply with covenants in our credit facilities.

An over-supply of containership capacity may prolong or further depress the current low charter rates and adversely affect our ability to recharter our containerships at profitable rates or at all and, in turn, reduce our profitability.

While the size of the containership order book has declined from the historic highs reached in mid-2008, at the end of 2017 newbuilding containerships with an aggregate capacity of approximately 2.8 million TEUs were under construction, representing approximately 13% of the existing global fleet capacity. The size of the orderbook is large relative to historic levels and, notwithstanding that some orders may be cancelled or delayed, will likely result in a significant increase in the size of the world containership fleet over the next few years. An over-supply of containership capacity, particularly in conjunction with the currently low level of demand for the seaborne transport of containers, which proposed liner company alliances may accentuate, could exacerbate the weakness in charter rates or prolong the period during which low charter rates prevail. We do not hedge against our exposure to changes in charter rates, due to increased supply of containerships or otherwise. As such, if the current low charter rate environment persists, or a further reduction occurs, during a period when the current charters for our containerships expire or are terminated, we may only be able to recharter those containerships at reduced or unprofitable rates or we may not be able to charter those vessels at all. As of February 28, 2018, the charters for twenty of our vessels expire between March 2018 and November 2018.

Our profitability and growth depends on our ability to expand relationships with existing charterers and to obtain new time charters, for which we will face substantial competition from established companies with significant resources as well as new entrants.

One of our objectives over the mid- to long-term is, when market conditions warrant and it is feasible, given the restrictions currently contained in our Bank Agreement, to acquire additional containerships in conjunction with entering into additional multi-year, fixed-rate time charters for these vessels. We employ our vessels in highly competitive markets that are capital intensive and highly fragmented, with a highly competitive process for obtaining new multi-year time charters that generally involves an intensive screening process and competitive bids, and often extends for several months. Generally, we compete for charters based on price, customer relationship, operating expertise, professional reputation and the size, age and condition of our vessels. In recent years, in light of the dramatic downturn in the containership charter market, other containership owners have chartered their vessels to liner companies at extremely low rates, including at unprofitable levels, increasing the price pressure when competing to secure employment for our containerships. Container shipping charters are awarded based upon a variety of factors relating to the vessel operator, including:

- shipping industry relationships and reputation for customer service and safety;
- container shipping experience and quality of ship operations (including cost effectiveness);
- quality and experience of seafaring crew;
- the ability to finance containerships at competitive rates and financial stability in general;
- relationships with shipyards and the ability to get suitable berths;
- construction management experience, including the ability to obtain on-time delivery of new ships according to customer specifications;

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- willingness to accept operational risks pursuant to the charter, such as allowing termination of the charter for force majeure events; and

- competitiveness of the bid in terms of overall price.

We face substantial competition from a number of experienced companies, including state-sponsored entities and major shipping companies. Some of these competitors have significantly greater financial resources than we do, and can therefore operate larger fleets and may be able to offer better charter rates. We anticipate that other marine transportation companies may also enter the containership sector, including many with strong reputations and extensive resources and experience. This increased competition may cause greater price competition for time charters and, in stronger market conditions, for secondhand vessels and newbuildings.

In addition, a number of our competitors in the containership sector, including several that are among the largest charter owners of containerships in the world, have been established in the form of a German KG (Kommanditgesellschaft), which provides tax benefits to private investors. Although the German tax law was amended to significantly restrict the tax benefits to taxpayers who invest in these entities after November 10, 2005, the tax benefits afforded to all investors in the KG-model shipping entities continue to be significant, and such entities may continue to be attractive investments. Their focus on these tax benefits allows the KG-model shipping entities more flexibility in offering lower charter rates to liner companies. Further, since the charter rate is generally considered to be one of the principal factors in a charterer's decision to charter a vessel, the rates offered by these sizeable competitors can have a depressing effect throughout the charter market.

As a result of these factors, we may be unable to compete successfully with established companies with greater resources or new entrants for charters at a profitable level, or at all, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We may have more difficulty entering into multi-year, fixed-rate time charters if a more active short-term or spot container shipping market develops.

One of our principal strategies is to enter into multi-year, fixed-rate containership time charters particularly in strong charter rate environments, although in weaker charter rate environments, such as the one that currently exists, we would generally expect to target somewhat shorter charter terms of three to six years or even shorter periods, particularly for smaller vessels. As more vessels become available for the spot or short-term market, we may have difficulty entering into additional multi-year, fixed-rate time charters for our containerships due to the increased supply of containerships and the possibility of lower rates in the spot market and, as a result, our cash flows may be subject to instability in the long-term. A more active short-term or spot market may require us to enter into charters based on changing market rates, as opposed to contracts based on a fixed rate, which could result in a decrease in our cash flows and net income in periods when the market for container shipping is depressed, as it is currently, or insufficient funds are available to cover our financing costs for related containerships.

Delays in deliveries of any newbuilding vessels we may order or any secondhand vessels we may agree to acquire could harm our business.

Delays in the delivery of any newbuilding containerships we may order or any secondhand vessels we may agree to acquire, would delay our receipt of revenues under any arranged time charters and could result in the cancellation of such time charters or other liabilities under such charters, and therefore adversely affect our anticipated results of operations. The delivery of any newbuilding containership could also be delayed because of, among other things:

- work stoppages or other labor disturbances or other events that disrupt the operations of the shipyard building the vessels;

- quality or engineering problems;
- changes in governmental regulations or maritime self-regulatory organization standards;
- lack of raw materials;
- bankruptcy or other financial crisis of the shipyard building the vessel;
- our inability to obtain requisite financing or make timely payments;
- a backlog of orders at the shipyard building the vessel;
- hostilities or political or economic disturbances in the countries where the containerships are being built;
- weather interference or catastrophic event, such as a major earthquake or fire;
- our requests for changes to the original vessel specifications;
- requests from the liner companies, with which we have arranged charters for such vessels, to delay construction and delivery of such vessels due to weak economic conditions and container shipping demand;
- shortages of or delays in the receipt of necessary construction materials, such as steel;
- our inability to obtain requisite permits or approvals; or
- a dispute with the shipyard building the vessel.

The shipbuilders with which we contract for any newbuilding may be affected by instability in the financial markets and other market conditions, including with respect to the fluctuating price of commodities and currency exchange rates. In addition, the refund guarantors under any newbuilding contracts we enter into, which would be banks, financial institutions and other credit agencies, may also be affected by financial market conditions in the same manner as our lenders and, as a result, may be unable or unwilling to meet their obligations under their refund guarantees. If shipbuilders or refund guarantors are unable or unwilling to meet their obligations to us, this will impact our acquisition of vessels and may materially and adversely affect our operations and our obligations under our credit facilities.

The delivery of any secondhand containership we may agree to acquire could be delayed because of, among other things, hostilities or political disturbances, non-performance of the purchase agreement with respect to the vessels by the seller, our inability to obtain requisite permits, approvals or financing or damage to or destruction of the vessels while being operated by the seller prior to the delivery date.

Containership values have decreased significantly in recent years, and may remain at these depressed levels, or decrease further, and over time may fluctuate substantially. Depressed vessel values could cause us to incur impairment charges, such as the $415.1 million and $41.1 million impairment losses we recorded as of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively, for our older vessels, or to incur a loss if these values are low at a time we are attempting to dispose of a vessel.

Due to the sharp decline in world trade and containership charter rates, the market values of the containerships in our fleet are currently significantly lower than prior to the downturn that began in the second half of 2008. Containership values may remain at current low, or lower, levels for a prolonged period of time and can fluctuate substantially over time due to a number of different factors, including:

- prevailing economic conditions in the markets in which containerships operate;
- changes in and the level of world trade;
- the supply of containership capacity;
- prevailing charter rates; and

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the cost of retrofitting or modifying existing ships, as a result of technological advances in vessel design or equipment, changes in applicable environmental or other regulations or standards, or otherwise.

As of December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, we recorded an impairment loss of $415.1 million and $41.1 million, respectively for our older vessels, and we have incurred impairment charges in prior years as well. Conditions in the containership market also required us to record other impairment losses in 2016, including losses with respect to our investment in Gemini and our ZIM securities. In the future, if the market values of our vessels experience further deterioration or we lose the benefits of the existing charter arrangements for any of our vessels and cannot replace such arrangements with charters at comparable rates, we may be required to record additional impairment charges in our financial statements, which could adversely affect our results of operations. Any impairment charges incurred as a result of declines in charter rates could negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, if we sell any vessel at a time when vessel prices have fallen and before we have recorded an impairment adjustment to our financial statements, the sale may be at less than the vessel's carrying amount on our financial statements, resulting in a loss and a reduction in earnings.

We are generally not permitted to pay cash dividends under our financing arrangements.

Prior to 2009, we paid regular cash dividends on a quarterly basis. In the first quarter of 2009, our board of directors suspended the payment of cash dividends as a result of market conditions in the international shipping industry and in particular the sharp decline in charter rates and vessel values in the containership sector. Until such market conditions significantly improve, it is unlikely that we will reinstate the payment of dividends and if reinstated, it is likely that any dividend payments would be at reduced levels. The Bank Agreement, which restructured our credit facilities and provides new financing arrangements, does not permit us to pay cash dividends or repurchase shares of our common stock until the termination of such agreements in late 2018, absent a significant decrease in our leverage.

We are a holding company and we depend on the ability of our subsidiaries to distribute funds to us in order to satisfy our financial obligations.

We are a holding company and our subsidiaries conduct all of our operations and own all of our operating assets. We have no significant assets other than the equity interests in our subsidiaries and our equity investment in Gemini. As a result, our ability to pay our contractual obligations and, if permitted by our lenders and reinstated, to make any dividend payments in the future depends on our subsidiaries and their ability to distribute funds to us. The ability of a subsidiary to make these distributions could be affected by a claim or other action by a third party, including a creditor, or by the law of their respective jurisdictions of incorporation which regulates the payment of dividends by companies. If we are unable to obtain funds from our subsidiaries, even if our lenders agreed to allow dividend payments, our board of directors may exercise its discretion not to declare or pay dividends. If we reinstate dividend payments in the future, we do not intend to seek to obtain funds from other sources to make such dividend payments, if any.

If we are unable to fund our capital expenditures for additional vessels, we may not be able to grow our fleet.

We would have to make substantial capital expenditures to grow our fleet. We have no remaining borrowing availability under our existing credit facilities. In order to fund capital expenditures for future fleet growth to the extent feasible given the current restrictions in our Bank Agreement and other financing arrangements, we generally plan to use equity financing given the restrictions that are contained in our restructured credit facilities and other financing arrangements on the use of cash from our operations, debt financings and asset sales for purposes other than debt repayment. Our ability to

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access the capital markets through future offerings may be limited by our financial condition at the time of any such offering as well as by adverse market conditions resulting from, among other things, general economic conditions and contingencies and uncertainties that are beyond our control. Moreover, only a portion of the proceeds from any equity financings that we are able to complete will be permitted to be used for purposes other than debt repayment under our restructured and other financing arrangements, which could also adversely affect our ability to complete an equity financing on favorable terms. Our failure to obtain funds for future capital expenditures could limit our ability to grow our fleet.

We must make substantial capital expenditures to maintain the operating capacity of our fleet, which may reduce the amount of cash available for other purposes.

Maintenance capital expenditures include capital expenditures associated with modifying an existing vessel or acquiring a new vessel to the extent these expenditures are incurred to maintain the operating capacity of our existing fleet. These expenditures could increase as a result of changes in the cost of labor and materials; customer requirements; increases in our fleet size or the cost of replacement vessels; governmental regulations and maritime self-regulatory organization standards relating to safety, security or the environment; and competitive standards. Significant capital expenditures, including to maintain the operating capacity of our fleet, may reduce the cash available for other purposes.

Our ability to obtain additional debt financing for future acquisitions of vessels may be dependent on the performance of our then existing charters and the creditworthiness of our charterers.

We have no remaining borrowing availability under our existing credit facilities. We intend, however, to borrow against vessels we may acquire in the future as part of our medium to long term growth plan to the extent permitted under our existing financing arrangements. The actual or perceived credit quality of our charterers, and any defaults by them, may materially affect our ability to obtain the additional capital resources that we will require to purchase additional vessels or may significantly increase our costs of obtaining such capital. Our inability to obtain additional financing or committing to financing on unattractive terms could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We are exposed to volatility in LIBOR.

Loans advanced under our credit facilities are, generally, advanced at a floating rate based on LIBOR, which has been stable and at historically low levels in recent years, but was volatile in prior years, which can affect the amount of interest payable on our debt, and which, in turn, could have an adverse effect on our earnings and cash flow. LIBOR rates have been at historically low levels for an extended period of time and may continue to increase from these low levels. Our financial condition could be materially adversely affected at any time that we have not entered into interest rate hedging arrangements to hedge our interest rate exposure and the interest rates applicable to our credit facilities and any other financing arrangements we may enter into in the future increase. Moreover, even if we have entered into interest rate swaps or other derivative instruments for purposes of managing our interest rate or bunker cost exposure, our hedging strategies may not be effective and we may incur substantial losses.

We may enter into derivative contracts to hedge our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates, which could result in higher than market interest rates and charges against our income.

As of December 31, 2017, we did not have any interest rate swap arrangements. In the past, however, we have entered into interest rate swaps in substantial aggregate notional amounts, generally for purposes of managing our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates applicable to indebtedness

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under our credit facilities, which were advanced at floating rates based on LIBOR, as well as interest rate swap agreements converting fixed interest rate exposure under our credit facilities advanced at a fixed rate of interest to floating rates based on LIBOR. Any hedging strategies we choose to employ, may not be effective and we may again incur substantial losses, as we did in 2015 and prior years. Since our discontinuation of hedge accounting for interest rate swaps and any other derivative instruments from July 1, 2012, we recognize all fluctuations in the fair value of such contracts in our consolidated Statements of Operations. Recognition of such fluctuations in our statement of operations may increase the volatility of our earnings. Any hedging activities we engage in may not effectively manage our interest rate exposure or have the desired impact on our financial conditions or results of operations.

Because we generate all of our revenues in United States dollars but incur a portion of our expenses in other currencies, exchange rate fluctuations could hurt our results of operations.

We generate all of our revenues in United States dollars and for the year ended December 31, 2017, we incurred approximately 25.0% of our vessels' expenses in currencies other than United States dollars, mainly Euros. This difference could lead to fluctuations in net income due to changes in the value of the United States dollar relative to the other currencies, in particular the Euro. Expenses incurred in foreign currencies against which the United States dollar falls in value could increase, thereby decreasing our net income. We have not hedged our currency exposure and, as a result, our U.S. dollar-denominated results of operations and financial condition could suffer. In addition, to the extent charter hire rates with respect to any port calls our vessels may make in Iran must be paid in a currency other than the U.S. dollar, due to continuing U.S. primary sanctions applicable to U.S. dollar transfers, we would be exposed to fluctuations in the value of that currency.

Due to our lack of diversification, adverse developments in the containership transportation business could reduce our ability to meet our payment obligations and our profitability.

We rely exclusively on the cash flows generated from charters for our vessels that operate in the containership sector of the shipping industry. Due to our lack of diversification, adverse developments in the container shipping industry have a significantly greater impact on our financial condition and results of operations than if we maintained more diverse assets or lines of business.

We may have difficulty properly managing our growth through acquisitions of additional vessels and we may not realize the expected benefits from these acquisitions, which may have an adverse effect on our financial condition and performance.

To the extent market conditions warrant and we are able to obtain sufficient financing for such purposes in compliance with the restrictions in our financing arrangements, we intend to grow our business over the medium to long-term by ordering newbuilding containerships and through selective acquisitions of additional vessels, including through our investment in Gemini. Future growth will primarily depend on:

- locating and acquiring suitable vessels;
- identifying and consummating vessel acquisitions or joint ventures relating to vessel acquisitions;
- enlarging our customer base;
- developments in the charter markets in which we operate that make it attractive for us to expand our fleet;
- managing any expansion;
- the operations of the shipyard building any newbuilding containerships we may order; and
- obtaining required financing, within the restrictions placed on the use of funds by our existing financing arrangements, on acceptable terms.

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Although containership charter rates and vessel values currently are at historically low levels, during periods in which charter rates are high, vessel values generally are high as well, and it may be difficult to acquire vessels at favorable prices. Moreover, our financing arrangements impose significant restrictions on our ability to use debt financing, or cash from operations, asset sales or equity financing, for purposes, such as vessel acquisitions, other than debt repayment without the consent of our lenders. In addition, growing any business by acquisition presents numerous risks, such as managing relationships with customers and integrating newly acquired assets into existing infrastructure. We cannot give any assurance that we will be successful in executing any growth plans or that we will not incur significant expenses and losses in connection with any future growth efforts.

We are subject to regulation and liability under environmental laws that could require significant expenditures and affect our cash flows and net income.

Our business and the operation of our vessels are materially affected by environmental regulation in the form of international, national, state and local laws, regulations, conventions and standards in force in international waters and the jurisdictions in which our vessels operate, as well as in the country or countries of their registration, including those governing the management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, the cleanup of oil spills and other contamination, air emissions, wastewater discharges and ballast water management. Because such conventions, laws, and regulations are often revised, we cannot predict the ultimate cost of complying with such requirements or their impact on the resale price or useful life of our vessels. We are required by various governmental and quasi-governmental agencies to obtain certain permits, licenses, certificates and financial assurances with respect to our operations. Many environmental requirements are designed to reduce the risk of pollution, such as from oil spills, and our compliance with these requirements could be costly. To comply with these and other regulations, including the new MARPOL Annex VI sulfur emission requirements instituting a global 0.5% sulphur cap on marine fuels from January 1, 2020 and the IMO ballast water management ("BWM") convention, which requires vessels to install expensive ballast water treatment systems ("BWTS"), we may be required to incur additional costs to meet new maintenance and inspection requirements, develop contingency plans for potential spills, and obtain insurance coverage. (Please read "Item 4B. Business Overview Regulation" for more information on the regulations applicable to our vessels.) Additional conventions, laws and regulations may be adopted that could limit our ability to do business or increase the cost of doing business and which may materially and adversely affect our operations.

Environmental requirements can also affect the resale value or useful lives of our vessels, could require a reduction in cargo capacity, ship modifications or operational changes or restrictions, could lead to decreased availability of insurance coverage for environmental matters or could result in the denial of access to certain jurisdictional waters or ports or detention in certain ports. Under local, national and foreign laws, as well as international treaties and conventions, we could incur material liabilities, including cleanup obligations and natural resource damages liability, in the event that there is a release of petroleum or hazardous materials from our vessels or otherwise in connection with 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. The 2010 explosion of the *Deepwater Horizon* and the subsequent release of oil into the Gulf of Mexico may result in further regulation of the shipping industry, including modifications to liability schemes. We could also become subject to personal injury or property damage claims relating to the release of hazardous substances associated with our existing or historic operations. Violations of, or liabilities under, environmental requirements can result in substantial penalties, fines and other sanctions, including, in certain instances, seizure or detention of our vessels.

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The operation of our vessels is also affected by the requirements set forth in the International Maritime Organization's, or IMO's, International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and Pollution Prevention, or the ISM Code. The ISM Code requires shipowners 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. Failure to comply with the ISM Code may subject us to increased liability, may decrease available insurance coverage for the affected ships, and may result in denial of access to, or detention in, certain ports.

In connection with a 2001 incident involving the presence of oil on the water on the starboard side of one of our former vessels, the *Henry* (ex *CMA CGM Passiflore*) in Long Beach, California, our manager pled guilty to one count of negligent discharge of oil and one count of obstruction of justice, based on a charge of attempted concealment of the source of the discharge. Consistent with the government's practice in similar cases, our manager agreed, among other things, to develop and implement an approved third party consultant monitored environmental compliance plan. Any violation of this environmental compliance plan or any penalties, restitution or heightened environmental compliance plan requirements that are imposed relating to alleged discharges in any other action involving our fleet or our manager could negatively affect our operations and business.

Climate change and greenhouse gas restrictions may adversely impact our operations.

Due to concern over the risks of climate change, a number of countries and the International Maritime Organization, or "IMO", have adopted, or are considering the adoption of, regulatory frameworks to reduce greenhouse gas emission from ships. These regulatory measures may include adoption of cap and trade regimes, carbon taxes, increased efficiency standards and incentives or mandates for renewable energy. Emissions of greenhouse gases from international shipping currently are not subject to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or the "Kyoto Protocol", or any amendments or successor agreements. The Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2015, which contemplates commitments from each nation party thereto to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit increases in global temperatures but did not include any restrictions or other measures specific to shipping emissions. However, restrictions on shipping emissions are likely to continue to be considered and a new treaty may be adopted in the future that includes additional restrictions on shipping emissions to those already adopted under the International Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Ships, or the "MARPOL Convention". Compliance with future changes in laws and regulations relating to climate change could increase the costs of operating and maintaining our ships and could require us to install new emission controls, as well as acquire allowances, pay taxes related to our greenhouse gas emissions or administer and manage a greenhouse gas emissions program.

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

International container shipping is subject to security and customs inspection and related procedures in countries of origin, destination, and certain trans- shipment points. These inspection procedures can result in cargo seizure, delays in the loading, offloading, trans-shipment, or delivery of containers, and the levying of customs duties, fines or other penalties against exporters or importers and, in some cases, charterers and charter owners.

Since the events of September 11, 2001, U.S. authorities increased container inspection rates and further increases have been contemplated. Government investment in non-intrusive container scanning technology has grown and there is interest in electronic monitoring technology, including so-called "e-seals" and "smart" containers, that would enable remote, centralized monitoring of containers

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during shipment to identify tampering with or opening of the containers, along with potentially measuring other characteristics such as temperature, air pressure, motion, chemicals, biological agents and radiation. Also, additional vessel security requirements have been imposed including the installation of security alert and automatic information systems on board vessels.

It is further unclear what changes, if any, to the existing inspection and security procedures will ultimately be proposed or implemented, or how any such changes will affect the industry. It is possible that such changes could impose additional financial and legal obligations, including additional responsibility for inspecting and recording the contents of containers and complying with additional security procedures on board vessels, such as those imposed under the ISPS Code. Changes to the inspection and security procedures and container security could result in additional costs and obligations on carriers and may, in certain cases, render the shipment of certain types of goods by container uneconomical or impractical. Additional costs that may arise from current inspection or security procedures or future proposals that may not be fully recoverable from customers through higher rates or security surcharges.

Our vessels may call on ports located in countries that are subject to restrictions imposed by the United States government, which could negatively affect the trading price of our shares of common stock.

From time to time on charterers' instructions, our vessels have called and may again call on ports located in countries subject to sanctions and embargoes imposed by the United States government and countries identified by the United States government as state sponsors of terrorism. 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.

On January 16, 2016, "Implementation Day" for the Iran Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the United States lifted its secondary sanctions against Iran which prohibited certain conduct by non-U.S. companies and individuals that occurred entirely outside of U.S. jurisdiction involving specified industry sectors in Iran, including the energy, petrochemical, automotive, financial, banking, mining, shipbuilding and shipping sectors. By lifting the secondary sanctions against Iran, the U.S. government effectively removed U.S. imposed restraints on dealings by non-U.S. companies, such as our Company, and individuals with these formerly targeted Iranian business sectors. Non-U.S. companies continue to be prohibited under U.S. sanctions from (i) knowingly engaging in conduct that seeks to evade U.S. restrictions on transactions or dealings with Iran or that causes the export of goods or services from the United States to Iran, (ii) exporting, reexporting or transferring to Iran any goods, technology, or services originally exported from the U.S. and / or subject to U.S. export jurisdiction and (iii) conducting transactions with the Iranian or Iran-related individuals and entities that remain or are placed in the future on OFAC's list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN List), notwithstanding the lifting of secondary sanctions. The U.S. has the ability to reimpose sanctions against Iran, including if, in the future, Iran does not comply with its obligations under the nuclear agreement.

The U.S. government's primary Iran sanctions remain largely unchanged after Implementation Day and as a consequence, U.S. persons continue to be broadly prohibited from engaging in transactions or dealings in or with Iran or its government. In addition, U.S. persons continue to be broadly prohibited from engaging in transactions or dealings with the Government of Iran and Iranian financial institutions, which effectively impacts the transfer of funds to, from, or through the U.S. financial system whether denominated in US dollars or any other currency.

In 2017, 2016 and 2015, no vessels operated by us made any calls to ports in Cuba, Iran, Syria or Sudan. Certain vessels in our fleet, however, are operated by liner companies under long-term bareboat charters, pursuant to which the liner company does not notify us of its ports of call and controls all

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aspects of these vessels' operation including technical management, manning with its own officers and crew as well as its ports of call, cargoes and routes within the limits set forth in the charters, which include compliance with applicable law. Although we believe that we are 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 or other penalties and could result in some investors deciding, or being required, to divest their interest, or not to invest, in the Company. Additionally, some investors may decide to divest their interest, or not to invest, in the Company simply because we do business with companies that do lawful business in sanctioned countries. 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. As a result of the lifting of U.S. secondary sanctions (and relevant EU sanctions) relating to Iran, we can anticipate that some of our charterers may direct our vessels to carry containers to or from Iran. This could have various effects on us, such as affecting our reputation and our relationships with our investors and financing sources, affecting the cost of our insurance with respect to such voyages, and potentially increase our exposure to foreign currency fluctuations. Investor perception of the value of our common stock may also be adversely affected by the consequences of war, the effects of terrorism, civil unrest and governmental actions in these and surrounding countries.

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

A government of a ship's registry could requisition for title or seize our vessels. Requisition for title occurs when a government takes control of a ship and becomes the owner. Also, a government could requisition our containerships for hire. Requisition for hire occurs when a government takes control of a ship 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 may negatively impact our revenues and results of operations.

Terrorist attacks and international hostilities could affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Terrorist attacks such as the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001 and more recent attacks in other parts of the world, and the continuing response of the United States and other countries to these attacks, as well as the threat of future terrorist attacks, continue to cause uncertainty in the world financial markets and may affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. Events in the Middle East and North Africa, including Egypt and Syria, and the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan may lead to additional acts of terrorism, regional conflict and other armed conflicts around the world, which may contribute to further economic instability in the global financial markets. These uncertainties could also adversely affect our ability to obtain additional financing on terms acceptable to us, or at all.

Terrorist attacks targeted at sea vessels, such as the October 2002 attack in Yemen on the VLCC Limburg, a ship not related to us, may in the future also negatively affect our operations and financial condition and directly impact our containerships or our customers. Future terrorist attacks could result in increased volatility of the financial markets in the United States and globally and could result in an economic recession affecting the United States or the entire world. Any of these occurrences could have a material adverse impact on our operating results, revenue and costs.

Changing economic, political and governmental conditions in the countries where we are engaged in business or where our vessels are registered could affect us. In addition, future hostilities or other political instability in regions where our vessels trade could also affect our trade patterns and adversely affect our operations and performance.

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Acts of piracy on ocean-going vessels have recently increased in frequency, which 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 and in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia. Despite leveling off somewhat in the last few years, the frequency of piracy incidents has increased significantly since 2008, particularly in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia. For example, in January 2010, the Maran Centaurus, a tanker vessel not affiliated with us, was captured by pirates in the Indian Ocean while carrying crude oil estimated to be worth $20 million, and was released in January 2010 upon a ransom payment of over $5 million. In addition, crew costs, including costs due to employing onboard 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, any detention or 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, financial condition, results of operations and ability to pay dividends.

The smuggling of drugs or other contraband onto our vessels may lead to governmental claims against us.

Our vessels call in ports in South America and other areas where smugglers attempt to hide drugs and other contraband on vessels, with or without the knowledge of crew members. To the extent our vessels are found with contraband, whether inside or attached to the hull of our vessel and whether with or without the knowledge of any of our crew, we may face governmental or other regulatory claims or penalties which could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

Risks inherent in the operation of ocean-going vessels could affect our business and reputation, which could adversely affect our expenses, net income and stock price.

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

- marine disaster;
- environmental accidents;
- grounding, fire, explosions and collisions;
- cargo and property losses or damage;
- business interruptions caused by mechanical failure, human error, war, terrorism, political action in various countries, or adverse weather conditions;
- work stoppages or other labor problems with crew members serving on our vessels, substantially all of whom are unionized and covered by collective bargaining agreements; and
- piracy.

Such occurrences could result in death or injury to persons, loss of property or environmental damage, delays in the delivery of cargo, loss of revenues from or termination of charter contracts, governmental fines, penalties or restrictions on conducting business, higher insurance rates, and damage to our reputation and customer relationships generally. Any of these circumstances or events could increase our costs or lower our revenues, which could result in reduction in the market price of our shares of common stock. The involvement of our vessels in an environmental disaster may harm our reputation as a safe and reliable vessel owner and operator.

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Our insurance may be insufficient to cover losses that may occur to our property or result from our operations due to the inherent operational risks of the shipping industry.

The operation of any vessel includes risks such as mechanical failure, collision, fire, contact with floating objects, property loss, cargo loss or damage and business interruption due to political circumstances in foreign countries, hostilities and labor strikes. In addition, there is always an inherent possibility of a marine disaster, including oil spills and other environmental mishaps. There are also liabilities arising from owning and operating vessels in international trade. We procure insurance for our fleet against risks commonly insured against by vessel owners and operators. Our current insurance includes (i) hull and machinery insurance covering damage to our vessels' hull and machinery from, among other things, contact with fixed and floating objects, (ii) war risks insurance covering losses associated with the outbreak or escalation of hostilities and (iii) protection and indemnity insurance (which includes environmental damage and pollution insurance) covering third-party and crew liabilities such as expenses resulting from the injury or death of crew members, passengers and other third parties, the loss or damage to cargo, third-party claims arising from collisions with other vessels, damage to other third-party property, pollution arising from oil or other substances and salvage, towing and other related costs and (iv) loss of hire insurance for the *CSCL Pusan* and the *CSCL Le Havre*.

We can give no assurance that we are adequately insured against all risks or that our insurers will pay a particular claim. Even if our insurance coverage is adequate to cover our losses, we may not be able to obtain a timely replacement vessel in the event of a loss. Under the terms of our credit facilities, we will be subject to restrictions on the use of any proceeds we may receive from claims under our insurance policies. Furthermore, in the future, we may not be able to obtain adequate insurance coverage at reasonable rates for our fleet. We may also be subject to calls, or premiums, in amounts based not only on our own claim records but also the claim records of all other members of the protection and indemnity associations through which we receive indemnity insurance coverage for tort liability. Our insurance policies also contain deductibles, limitations and exclusions which, although we believe are standard in the shipping industry, may nevertheless increase our costs.

In addition, we do not currently carry loss of hire insurance (other than for the *CSCL Pusan* and the *CSCL Le Havre* to satisfy our loan agreement requirements). Loss of hire insurance covers the loss of revenue during extended vessel off-hire periods, such as those that occur during an unscheduled drydocking due to damage to the vessel from accidents. Accordingly, any loss of a vessel or any extended period of vessel off-hire, due to an accident or otherwise, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition and our ability to pay dividends, if any, to our stockholders.

Maritime claimants could arrest our vessels, which could interrupt our cash flows.

Crew members, suppliers of goods and services to a vessel, shippers of cargo and other parties may be entitled to a maritime lien against that vessel for unsatisfied debts, claims or damages. In many jurisdictions, a maritime lien holder may enforce its lien by arresting a vessel through foreclosure proceedings. The arrest or attachment of one or more of our vessels could interrupt our cash flows and require us to pay large sums of money to have the arrest lifted.

In addition, in some jurisdictions, such as South Africa, under the "sister ship" theory of liability, a claimant may arrest both the vessel that is subject to the claimant's maritime lien and any "associated" vessel, which is any vessel owned or controlled by the same owner. Claimants could try to assert "sister ship" liability against one vessel in our fleet for claims relating to another of our ships.

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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 our fleet ages, we may 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 and safety or other equipment standards related to the age of a vessel may also 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. Although our current fleet of 55 containerships had an average age (weighted by TEU capacity) of approximately 9.4 years as of February 28, 2018, we cannot assure you that, as our vessels age, market conditions will justify such expenditures or will enable us to profitably operate our vessels during the remainder of their expected useful lives.

Increased competition in technology and innovation could reduce our charter hire income and the value of our vessels.

The charter rates and the value and operational life of a vessel are determined by a number of factors, including the vessel's efficiency, operational flexibility and physical life. Efficiency includes speed and fuel economy. Flexibility includes the ability to enter harbors, utilize related docking facilities and pass through canals and straits. Physical life is related to the original design and construction, maintenance and the impact of the stress of operations. If new ship designs currently promoted by shipyards as more fuel efficient perform as promoted or containerships are built that are more efficient or flexible or have longer physical lives than our vessels, competition from these more technologically advanced containerships could adversely affect the amount of charter-hire payments that we receive for our containerships once their current time charters expire and the resale value of our containerships. This could adversely affect our ability to service our debt or pay dividends, if any, to our stockholders.

We rely on our information systems to conduct our business, and failure to protect these systems against security breaches could adversely affect our business and results of operations. Additionally, if these systems fail or become unavailable for any significant period of time, our business could be harmed.

The efficient operation of our business is dependent on computer hardware and software systems. Information systems are vulnerable to security breaches by computer hackers and cyberterrorists. We rely on industry accepted security measures and technology to securely maintain confidential and proprietary information maintained on our information systems. However, these measures and technology may not adequately prevent security breaches. In addition, the unavailability of the information systems or the failure of these systems to perform as anticipated for any reason could disrupt our business and could result in decreased performance and increased operating costs, causing our business and results of operations to suffer. Any significant interruption or failure of our information systems or any significant breach of security could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition, as well as our cash flows.

Compliance with safety and other requirements imposed by classification societies may be very costly and may adversely affect our business.

The hull and machinery of every commercial vessel must be classed 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, and all vessels must be awarded ISM certification.

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A vessel must undergo annual surveys, intermediate surveys and special surveys. In lieu of a special survey, a vessel's machinery may be on a continuous survey cycle, under which the machinery would be surveyed periodically over a five-year period. Each of the vessels in our fleet is on a special survey cycle for hull inspection and a continuous survey cycle for machinery inspection.

If any vessel does not maintain its class or fails any annual, intermediate or special survey, and/or loses its certification, the vessel will be unable to trade between ports and will be unemployable, and we could be in violation of certain covenants in our loan agreements. This would negatively impact our operating results and financial condition.

Our business depends upon certain employees who may not necessarily continue to work for us.

Our future success depends to a significant extent upon our chief executive officer, Dr. John Coustas, and certain members of our senior management and that of our manager. Dr. Coustas has substantial experience in the container shipping industry and has worked with us and our manager for many years. He and others employed by us and our manager are crucial to the execution of our business strategies and to the growth and development of our business. In addition, under the terms of the Bank Agreement, Dr. Coustas ceasing to serve as our Chief Executive Officer, absent a successor acceptable to our lenders, would constitute an event of default under these agreements. If these certain individuals were no longer to be affiliated with us or our manager, or if we were to otherwise cease to receive advisory services from them, we may be unable to recruit other employees with equivalent talent and experience, and our business and financial condition may suffer as a result.

The provisions in our restrictive covenant agreement with our chief executive officer restricting his ability to compete with us, like restrictive covenants generally, may not be enforceable and, subject to certain limitations, will not apply to vessels acquired during the period existing restrictions in our Bank Agreement apply in their current form and companies affiliated with our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Coustas, may acquire vessels that compete with our fleet.

Dr. Coustas, our chief executive officer, has entered into a restrictive covenant agreement with us under which he is precluded during the term of our management agreement with our manager, Danaos Shipping, and for one year thereafter from owning and operating drybulk ships or containerships larger than 2,500 TEUs and from acquiring or investing in a business that owns or operates such vessels. Courts generally do not favor the enforcement of such restrictions, particularly when they involve individuals and could be construed as infringing on their ability to be employed or to earn a livelihood. Our ability to enforce these restrictions, should it ever become necessary, will depend upon the circumstances that exist at the time enforcement is sought. We cannot be assured that a court would enforce the restrictions as written by way of an injunction or that we could necessarily establish a case for damages as a result of a violation of the restrictive covenants.

In connection with our investment in Gemini in 2015, these restrictions were waived, with the approval of our independent directors, with respect to vessels acquired by Gemini. In addition, a committee of independent directors previously determined that the restrictions in the restrictive covenant agreement will not apply, subject to certain limitations, until certain restrictions in the Bank Agreement cease to apply in their current form. Consequently, companies, other than Gemini, that are affiliated with our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. John Coustas, may directly or indirectly acquire, own and operate, and Danaos Shipping, our manager, may manage, vessels that compete directly with ours, subject to a chartering priority in favor of our containerships of similar TEU capacity instituted to protect our containerships from competition for chartering opportunities. In addition, our manager would be permitted to manage any such vessels acquired by entities affiliated with Dr. Coustas and Dr. Coustas and our other executive officers would be permitted to provide services with respect to such vessels and the entities owning, operating and managing such vessels. In such cases, these entities

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and individuals could compete with our fleet and may face conflicts between their own interests and their obligations to us, and such individuals may not devote all of their time to our business.

We depend on our manager to operate our business.

Pursuant to the management agreement and the individual ship management agreements, our manager and its affiliates provides us with technical, administrative and certain commercial services (including vessel maintenance, crewing, purchasing, shipyard supervision, insurance, assistance with regulatory compliance and financial services). Our operational success will depend significantly upon our manager's satisfactory performance of these services. Our business would be harmed if our manager failed to perform these services satisfactorily. In addition, if the management agreement were to be terminated or if its terms were to be altered, our business could be adversely affected, as we may not be able to immediately replace such services, and even if replacement services were immediately available, the terms offered could be less favorable than the ones currently offered by our manager. Our management agreement with any new manager may not be as favorable.

Our ability to compete for and enter into new time charters and to expand our relationships with our existing charterers depends largely on our relationship with our manager and its reputation and relationships in the shipping industry. If our manager suffers material damage to its reputation or relationships, it may harm our ability to:

- renew existing charters upon their expiration;
- obtain new charters;
- successfully interact with shipyards during periods of shipyard construction constraints;
- obtain financing on commercially acceptable terms or at all;
- maintain satisfactory relationships with our charterers and suppliers; or
- successfully execute our business strategies.

If our ability to do any of the things described above is impaired, it could have a material adverse effect on our business and affect our profitability.

Our manager is a privately held company and there is little or no publicly available information about it.

The ability of our manager to continue providing services for our benefit will depend in part on its own financial strength. Circumstances beyond our control could impair our manager's financial strength, and because it is a privately held company, information about its financial strength is not available. As a result, our stockholders might have little advance warning of problems affecting our manager, even though these problems could have a material adverse effect on us. As part of our reporting obligations as a public company, we will disclose information regarding our manager that has a material impact on us to the extent that we become aware of such information.

We are a Marshall Islands corporation, and the Marshall Islands does not have a well-developed body of corporate law.

Our corporate affairs are governed by our articles of incorporation and bylaws and by the Marshall Islands Business Corporations Act, or BCA. The provisions of the BCA are similar to provisions of the corporation laws of a number of states in the United States. However, there have been few judicial cases in the Republic of The Marshall Islands interpreting the BCA. The rights and fiduciary responsibilities of directors under the law of the Republic of The Marshall Islands are not as clearly established as the rights and fiduciary responsibilities of directors under statutes or judicial precedent in existence in certain U.S. jurisdictions. Stockholder rights may differ as well. While the BCA does specifically incorporate the non-statutory law, or judicial case law, of the State of Delaware and other states with substantially similar legislative provisions, our public stockholders may have more difficulty in protecting their interests in the face of actions by the management, directors or controlling stockholders than would stockholders of a corporation incorporated in a U.S. jurisdiction.

It may be difficult to enforce service of process and enforcement of judgments against us and our officers and directors.

We are a Marshall Islands corporation, and our registered office is located outside of the United States in the Marshall Islands. A majority of our directors and officers reside outside of the United States, and a substantial portion of our assets and the assets of our officers and directors are located outside of the United States. As a result, you may have difficulty serving legal process within the United States upon us or any of these persons. You may also have difficulty enforcing, both in and outside of the United States, judgments you may obtain in the U.S. courts against us or these persons in any action, including actions based upon the civil liability provisions of U.S. federal or state securities laws.

There is also substantial doubt that the courts of the Marshall Islands would enter judgments in original actions brought in those courts predicated on U.S. federal or state securities laws. Even if you were successful in bringing an action of this kind, the laws of the Marshall Islands may prevent or restrict you from enforcing a judgment against our assets or our directors and officers.

We maintain cash with a limited number of financial institutions including financial institutions that may be located in Greece, which will subject us to credit risk.

We maintain all of our cash with a limited number of financial institutions, including institutions that are located in Greece. These financial institutions located in Greece may be subsidiaries of international banks or Greek financial institutions. Economic conditions in Greece have been, and continue to be, severely disrupted and volatile, and as a result of sovereign weakness, Moody's Investor Services Inc. has downgraded the bank financial strength ratings, as well as the deposit and debt ratings, of several Greek banks to reflect their weakening stand-alone financial strength and the anticipated additional pressures stemming from the country's challenged economic prospects. In addition, in 2015, Greece implemented capital controls restricting the transfer of funds out of Greece, which could restrict our uses of the limited amount of cash we hold in Greece.

We do not expect that any of our balances held with Greek financial institutions will be covered by insurance in the event of default by these financial institutions. The occurrence of such a default could therefore have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. If we are unable to fund our capital expenditures, we may not be able to continue to operate some of our vessels, which would have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risks Relating to Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock has fluctuated widely and the market price of our common stock may fluctuate in the future.

The market price of our common stock has fluctuated widely since our initial public offering in October 2006, reaching a high of $40.26 per share in 2007 and a low of $1.25 per share, most recently in February 2018, and may continue to do so as a result of many factors, including our actual results of operations and perceived prospects, the prospects of our competition and of the shipping industry in general and in particular the containership sector, differences between our actual financial and operating results and those expected by investors and analysts, changes in analysts' recommendations or projections, changes in general valuations for companies in the shipping industry, particularly the containership sector, changes in general economic or market conditions and broad market fluctuations.

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If the market price of our common stock remains below $5.00 per share our stockholders will not be able to use such shares as collateral for borrowing in margin accounts. This inability to use shares of our common stock as collateral may depress demand and certain institutional investors are restricted from investing in shares priced below $5.00, which may also lead to sales of such shares creating downward pressure on and increased volatility in the market price of our common stock.

Future issuances of equity, including upon exercise of outstanding warrants, or equity- linked securities, or future sales of our common stock by existing stockholders, may result in significant dilution and adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

We issued 15 million warrants, for no additional consideration, to our existing lenders participating in the Bank Agreement covering our then existing credit facilities and certain new credit facilities, entitling such lenders to purchase, solely on a cashless exercise basis, additional shares of our common stock, at an initial exercise price of $7.00 per share. We have also agreed to register the warrants and underlying common stock for resale under the Securities Act, and have registered 8,044,176 warrants and underlying shares.

We may have to attempt to sell additional shares in the future to satisfy our capital and operating needs, however, under our debt agreements we are prohibited from using a significant portion of the proceeds from equity issuances for purposes other than the repayment of indebtedness. In addition, lenders may be unwilling to provide future financing or may provide future financing only on unfavorable terms. In light of the restrictions on our use of cash from operations, debt financings, equity proceeds and asset sales contained in our Bank Agreement governing our credit facilities, to finance further growth we would likely have to issue additional shares of common stock or other equity securities. If we sell shares in the future, the prices at which we sell these future shares will vary, and these variations may be significant. If made at currently prevailing prices, these sales would be significantly dilutive of existing stockholders.

Subsequent resales of substantial numbers of such shares in the public market, moreover, could adversely affect the market price of our shares. We filed with the SEC a shelf registration statements on Form F-3 registering under the Securities Act an aggregate of 88,222,555 shares of our common stock for resale on behalf of selling stockholders, including our executive officers, and granted registration rights in respect of additional shares of our common stock held by certain other investors in our August 2010 equity offering. In the aggregate these 98,372,555 registered shares represent approximately 89.6% of our outstanding shares of common stock as of February 28, 2018. These shares may be sold in registered transactions and may also be resold subject to the requirements of Rule 144 under the Securities Act. Sales or the possibility of sales of substantial amounts of our common stock by these shareholders in the public markets could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

We cannot predict the effect that future sales of our common stock or other equity related securities would have on the market price of our common stock.

The Coustas Family Trust, our principal existing stockholder, controls the outcome of matters on which our stockholders are entitled to vote and its interests may be different from yours.

The Coustas Family Trust, under which our chief executive officer is a beneficiary, together with other members of the Coustas Family, owned approximately 61.8% of our outstanding common stock as of February 28, 2018. This stockholder is able to control the outcome of matters on which our stockholders are entitled to vote, including the election of our entire board of directors and other significant corporate actions. The interests of this stockholder may be different from yours. Under the terms of the Bank Agreement governing our credit facilities, Dr. Coustas, together with the Coustas

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Family Trust and his family, ceasing to own over one-third of our outstanding common stock will constitute an event of default in certain circumstances.

We are a "controlled company" under the New York Stock Exchange rules, and as such we are entitled to exemptions from certain New York Stock Exchange corporate governance standards, and you may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance requirements.

We are a "controlled company" within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance standards. Under the New York Stock Exchange rules, a company of which more than 50% of the voting power is held by another company or group is a "controlled company" and may elect not to comply with certain New York Stock Exchange corporate governance requirements, including (1) the requirement that a majority of the board of directors consist of independent directors, (2) the requirement that the nominating committee be composed entirely of independent directors and have a written charter addressing the committee's purpose and responsibilities, (3) the requirement that the compensation committee be composed entirely of independent directors and have a written charter addressing the committee's purpose and responsibilities and (4) the requirement of an annual performance evaluation of the nominating and corporate governance and compensation committees. We may utilize these exemptions, and currently a non-independent director serves on our compensation committee and on our nominating and corporate governance committee. As a result, non-independent directors, including members of our management who also serve on our board of directors, may serve on the compensation or the nominating and corporate governance committees of our board of directors which, among other things, fix the compensation of our management, make stock and option awards and resolve governance issues regarding us. Accordingly, you may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance requirements.

Anti-takeover provisions in our organizational documents could make it difficult for our stockholders to replace or remove our current board of directors or could have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a merger or acquisition, which could adversely affect the market price of the shares of our common stock.

Several provisions of our articles of incorporation and bylaws could make it difficult for our stockholders to change the composition of our board of directors in any one year, preventing them from changing the composition of our management. In addition, the same provisions may discourage, delay or prevent a merger or acquisition that stockholders may consider favorable.

These provisions:

- authorize our board of directors to issue "blank check" preferred stock without stockholder approval;
- provide for a classified board of directors with staggered, three-year terms;
- prohibit cumulative voting in the election of directors;
- authorize the removal of directors only for cause and only upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least $66^2/_3$% of the outstanding stock entitled to vote for those directors;
- prohibit stockholder action by written consent unless the written consent is signed by all stockholders entitled to vote on the action;
- establish advance notice requirements for nominations for election to our board of directors or for proposing matters that can be acted on by stockholders at stockholder meetings; and
- restrict business combinations with interested stockholders.

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We have adopted a stockholder rights plan pursuant to which our board of directors may cause the substantial dilution of the holdings of any person that attempts to acquire us without the approval of our board of directors. In addition, our respective lenders under our existing credit facilities covered by the Bank Agreement for the restructuring thereof and the new credit facilities will be entitled to require us to repay in full amounts outstanding under such credit facilities, if Dr. Coustas ceases to be our Chief Executive Officer or, together with members of his family and trusts for the benefit thereof, ceases to collectively own over one-third of the voting interest in our outstanding capital stock or any other person or group controls more than 20.0% of the voting power of our outstanding capital stock.

These anti-takeover provisions, including the provisions of our stockholder rights plan, could substantially impede the ability of public stockholders to benefit from a change in control and, as a result, may adversely affect the market price of our common stock and your ability to realize any potential change of control premium.

Tax Risks

We may have to pay tax on U.S.-source income, which would reduce our earnings.

Under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, 50% of the gross shipping income of a ship owning or chartering corporation, such as ourselves, that is attributable to transportation that begins or ends, but that does not both begin and end, in the United States is characterized as U.S.-source shipping income and as such is subject to a 4% U.S. federal income tax without allowance for deduction, unless that corporation qualifies for exemption from tax under Section 883 of the Code and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

We believe that we and our subsidiaries currently qualify for this statutory tax exemption and we currently intend to take that position for U.S. federal income tax reporting purposes. However, there are factual circumstances beyond our control that could cause us or our subsidiaries to fail to qualify for the benefit of this tax exemption and thus to be subject to U.S. federal income tax on U.S.-source shipping income. There can be no assurance that we or any of our subsidiaries will qualify for this tax exemption for any year. For example, even assuming, as we expect will be the case, that our shares are regularly and primarily traded on an established securities market in the United States, if shareholders each of whom owns, actually or under applicable attribution rules, 5% or more of our shares own, in the aggregate, 50% or more of our shares, then we and our subsidiaries will generally not be eligible for the Section 883 exemption unless we can establish, in accordance with specified ownership certification procedures, either (i) that a sufficient number of the shares in the closely-held block are owned, directly or under the applicable attribution rules, by "qualified shareholders" (generally, individuals resident in certain non-U.S. jurisdictions) so that the shares in the closely-held block that are not so owned could not constitute 50% or more of our shares for more than half of the days in the relevant tax year or (ii) that qualified shareholders owned more than 50% of our shares for at least half of the days in the relevant taxable year. There can be no assurance that we will be able to establish such ownership by qualified shareholders for any tax year.

If we or our subsidiaries are not entitled to the exemption under Section 883 for any taxable year, we or our subsidiaries would be subject for those years to a 4% U.S. federal income tax on our gross U.S. source shipping income. The imposition of this taxation could have a negative effect on our business and would result in decreased earnings available for distribution to our stockholders. A number of our charters contain provisions that obligate the charterers to reimburse us for the 4% gross basis tax on our U.S. source shipping income.

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If we were treated as a "passive foreign investment company," certain adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences could result to U.S. stockholders.

A foreign corporation will be treated as a "passive foreign investment company," or PFIC, for U.S. federal income tax purposes if at least 75% of its gross income for any taxable year consists of certain types of "passive income," or 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 that 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." In general, U.S. stockholders of a PFIC are subject to a disadvantageous U.S. 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. If we are treated as a PFIC for any taxable year, we will provide information to U.S. stockholders to enable them to make certain elections to alleviate certain of the adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences that would arise as a result of holding an interest in a PFIC.

While there are legal uncertainties involved in this determination, including as a result of a decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *Tidewater Inc. and Subsidiaries v. United States*, 565 F.3d 299 (5th Cir. 2009) which held that income derived from certain time chartering activities should be treated as rental income rather than services income for purposes of the foreign sales corporation rules under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, we believe we should not be treated as a PFIC for the taxable year ended December 31, 2017. However, if the principles of the *Tidewater* decision were applicable to our time charters, we would likely be treated as a PFIC. Moreover, there is no assurance that the nature of our assets, income and operations will not change or that we can avoid being treated as a PFIC for subsequent years.

If we became subject to Liberian taxation, the net income and cash flows of our Liberian subsidiaries and therefore our net income and cash flows, would be materially reduced.

A number of our subsidiaries are incorporated under the laws of the Republic of Liberia. The Republic of Liberia enacted a new income tax act effective as of January 1, 2001 (the "New Act") which does not distinguish between the taxation of "non-resident" Liberian corporations, such as our Liberian subsidiaries, which conduct no business in Liberia and were wholly exempt from taxation under the income tax law previously in effect since 1977, and "resident" Liberian corporations which conduct business in Liberia and are, and were under the prior law, subject to taxation.

The New Act was amended by the Consolidated Tax Amendments Act of 2011, which was published and became effective on November 1, 2011 (the "Amended Act"). The Amended Act specifically exempts from taxation non-resident Liberian corporations such as our Liberian subsidiaries that engage in international shipping (and are not engaged in shipping exclusively within Liberia) and that do not engage in other business or activities in Liberia other than those specifically enumerated in the Amended Act. In addition, the Amended Act made such exemption from taxation retroactive to the effective date of the New Act.

If, however, our Liberian subsidiaries were subject to Liberian income tax under the Amended Act, they would be subject to tax at a rate of 35% on their worldwide income. As a result, their, and subsequently our, net income and cash flows would be materially reduced. In addition, as the ultimate stockholder of the Liberian subsidiaries, we would be subject to Liberian withholding tax on dividends paid by our Liberian subsidiaries at rates ranging from 15% to 20%, which would limit our access to funds generated by the operations of our subsidiaries and further reduce our income and cash flows.

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Item 4. Information on the Company

History and Development of the Company

Danaos Corporation is an international owner of containerships, chartering its vessels to many of the world's largest liner companies. We are a corporation domesticated in the Republic of The Marshall Islands on October 7, 2005, under the Marshall Islands Business Corporations Act, after having been incorporated as a Liberian company in 1998 in connection with the consolidation of our assets under Danaos Holdings Limited. In connection with our domestication in the Marshall Islands we changed our name from Danaos Holdings Limited to Danaos Corporation. Our manager, Danaos Shipping Company Limited, or Danaos Shipping, was founded by Dimitris Coustas in 1972 and since that time it has continuously provided seaborne transportation services under the management of the Coustas family. Dr. John Coustas, our chief executive officer, assumed responsibility for our management in 1987. Dr. Coustas has focused our business on chartering containerships to liner companies and has overseen the expansion of our fleet from three multi-purpose vessels in 1987 to the 55 containerships comprising our fleet as of February 28, 2018. In 2015, we formed a joint venture, Gemini Shipholdings Corporation, in which we have 49% minority equity interest, with our largest stockholder, Danaos Investments Limited as Trustee of the 883 Trust, which we refer to as the Coustas Family Trust, to acquire, own and operate containerships. As of February 28, 2018, Gemini had acquired a fleet of four containerships aggregating 23,998 TEU in capacity.

In October 2006, we completed an initial public offering of our common stock in the United States and our common stock began trading on the New York Stock Exchange. In August 2010, we completed a common stock sale of 54,054,055 shares for $200 million and in 2011 we issued warrants to purchase 15 million shares of our common stock.

Our company operates through a number of subsidiaries incorporated in Liberia, Cyprus, Malta and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, all of which are wholly-owned by us and either directly or indirectly owns the vessels in our fleet. A list of our active subsidiaries as of February 28, 2018, and their jurisdictions of incorporation, is set forth in Exhibit 8 to this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

Our principal executive offices are c/o Danaos Shipping Co. Ltd., Athens Branch, 14 Akti Kondyli, 185 45 Piraeus, Greece. Our telephone number at that address is +30 210 419 6480.

Business Overview

We are an international owner of containerships, chartering our vessels to many of the world's largest liner companies. As of February 28, 2018, we had a fleet of 55 containerships aggregating 327,616 TEUs, making us among the largest containership charter owners in the world, based on total TEU capacity. Gemini, in which we have a 49% minority equity interest, had a fleet of four containerships of 23,998 TEU aggregate capacity as of February 28, 2018.

Our strategy is to charter our containerships under multi-year, fixed-rate period charters to a diverse group of liner companies, including many of the largest companies globally, as measured by TEU capacity. As of February 28, 2018, these customers included CMA-CGM, Yang Ming, COSCO, Hyundai Merchant Marine, ZIM Israel Integrated Shipping Services, Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line (NYK), Hapag Lloyd, Maersk, Evergreen and MSC; and for Gemini, NYK, Hapag Lloyd and MOL.

Our Fleet

General

Danaos is one of the largest containership operating lessors in the world. Since going public in 2006, we have almost tripled our TEU carrying capacity. Today, our fleet includes some of the largest containerships in the world, which are designed with certain technological advances and customized modifications that make them efficient with respect to both voyage speed and loading capability when compared to many existing vessels operating in the containership sector. On January 8, 2016 we completed the sale of the vessel *Federal,* which was held for sale as of December 31, 2015.

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We deploy our containership fleet principally under multi-year charters with major liner companies that operate regularly scheduled routes between large commercial ports, although in weaker containership charter markets such as is currently prevailing we charter more of our vessels on shorter term charters so as to be available to take advantage of any increase in charter rates. As of February 28, 2018, our containership fleet was comprised of fifty-one containerships deployed on time charters, twenty of which are scheduled to expire in 2018, and four containerships deployed on bareboat charters. The average age (weighted by TEU) of the 55 vessels in our containership fleet was approximately 9.4 years as of February 28, 2018. As of February 28, 2018, the average remaining duration of the charters for our containership fleet was 5.6 years (weighted by aggregate contracted charter hire).

Characteristics

The table below provides additional information, as of February 28, 2018, about our fleet of 55 cellular containerships and the four cellular containerships owned by Gemini, in which we have a 49% equity interest.

Vessel Name	Year Built	Vessel Size (TEU)	Initial Time Charter Term(1)	Expiration of Charter(1)	Charterer
MSC Ambition (ex Hyundai Ambition)	2012	13,100	12 years	June 2024	Hyundai
Maersk Exeter (ex Hyundai Speed)	2012	13,100	12 years	June 2024	Hyundai
Maersk Enping (ex Hyundai Smart)	2012	13,100	12 years	May 2024	Hyundai
Hyundai Respect (ex Hyundai Tenacity)(2)	2012	13,100	12 years	March 2024	Hyundai
Hyundai Honour (ex Hyundai Together)(2)	2012	13,100	12 years	February 2024	Hyundai
Express Rome	2011	10,100	1 year	January 2019	Hapag Lloyd
Express Berlin	2011	10,100	2 years	September 2019	Yang Ming
Express Athens	2011	10,100	1 year	February 2019	Hapag Lloyd
CSCL Le Havre	2006	9,580	12 years	September 2018	COSCO
CSCL Pusan	2006	9,580	12 years	July 2018	COSCO
CMA CGM Melisande	2012	8,530	12 years	November 2023	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Attila	2011	8,530	12 years	April 2023	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Tancredi	2011	8,530	12 years	May 2023	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Bianca	2011	8,530	12 years	July 2023	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Samson	2011	8,530	12 years	September 2023	CMA-CGM
CSCL America	2004	8,468	0.8 year	March 2018	COSCO
Europe	2004	8,468	0.8 year	January 2019	COSCO
CMA CGM Moliere	2009	6,500	12 years	August 2021	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Musset	2010	6,500	12 years	February 2022	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Nerval	2010	6,500	12 years	April 2022	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Rabelais	2010	6,500	12 years	June 2022	CMA-CGM
CMA CGM Racine	2010	6,500	12 years	July 2022	CMA-CGM
Priority	2002	6,402	1 year	March 2018	NYK
Performance	2002	6,402	1 year	May 2018	CMA-CGM
YM Seattle	2007	4,253	12 years	July 2019	Yang Ming
YM Vancouver	2007	4,253	12 years	September 2019	Yang Ming
ZIM Rio Grande	2008	4,253	12 years	May 2020	ZIM
ZIM Sao Paolo	2008	4,253	12 years	August 2020	ZIM
ZIM Kingston (ex OOCL Istanbul)	2008	4,253	12 years	September 2020	ZIM
ZIM Monaco	2009	4,253	12 years	November 2020	ZIM
ZIM Dalian (ex OOCL Novorossiysk)	2009	4,253			