



ALPHALINER

Weekly Newsletter

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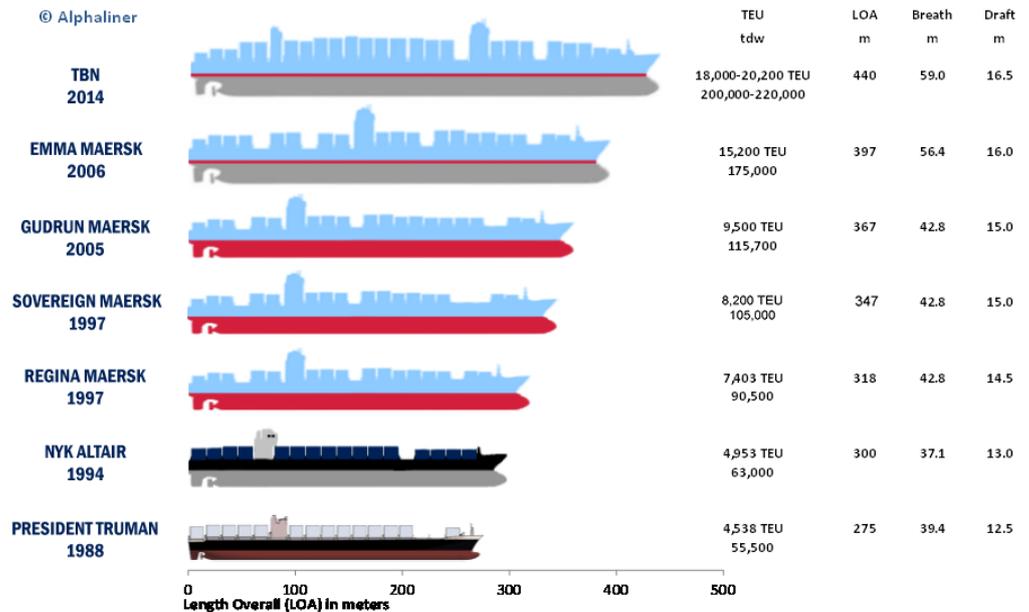
- After a lull in VL/ULCS orders, carriers are thinking about ordering big ships again. The question is, how far they can go in terms of ship size
- Based on a conceptual ULCS design developed by Alphaliner, such vessels could have a nominal capacity of up to 20,000 teu
- Orders for such a massive vessel from a major shipping line could force competing carriers to rethink their future plans, even if most carriers currently have no plans to order ULCS behemoths of over 14,000 teu

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Chart of the week

Evolution of the world's largest containerships 1985-2011



Maersk 18,000 teu order may trigger new capacity race

Maersk's rumored order for 18,000 teu containerships could change the competitive landscape for the container carriers, with the new designs expected to breach existing vessel dimensions in a significant way.

Currently, the largest containerships, Maersk Line's 'E'-class, can carry up to 6,800 x 40 ft High-Cube containers, or a mix of 40 ft HC, 40 ft standard and 20 ft standard boxes, equivalent to 15,200 teu, based on Alphaliner's estimates. These ultra large container ships are too wide for the new Panama locks and can thus be qualified as neo-overpanamax ULCS.

Conceptual design of a twin engine 20,000 teu ULCS

