Tanker Shipping Market Overview & Outlook Q4 2023

Highlights

Demand

The IMF forecasts that the **global economy will grow by 2.9% in 2024 and 3.2% in 2025both 2023 and 2024.** The US and China are expected to slow down significantly vs. 2023.

Supply growth will come from the Americas. An end to Saudi Arabian and Russian production cuts could create surplus supply in H1 2024 and allow rebuilding of inventories.

Global oil consumption is expected to hit a new record of 102.9 mbpd in 2024. Growth continues to be driven by China.

New oil supply is coming mainly from the Americas while new refinery capacity is added mainly in Asia, causing **longer sailing distances for both crude and product tankers.**

Supply

Due to a small order book, deliveries of new ships remain muted . However, recycling of ships is also low. **Crude tanker fleet is forecast to grow 0.7% in 2024 and 1.1% in 2024.**

The product tanker fleet is estimated to grow 1.9% in 2024 and 4.4% in 2025. Orders for new ships have increased during 2023 and delivery of these ships will start in 2025.

Crude and product tankers have sailed faster in 2023 and experienced less congestion. **We do not expect any further increase in sailing speed during 2024 and 2025.**

Supply/demand

Supply growth is expected to be the same as fleet growth. **Crude tanker supply should grow 0.7% and 1.1% in 2024 and 2025, product tanker 1.9% and 4.4%.**

Increased sailing distances and record oil consumption underpin demand. **Crude tanker market will grow 5-6% in 2024 and 2-3% in 2025, product 5-6% and 1.5-2.5%.**

Limited supply growth combined with record oil consumption and longer sailing distances drive the market. **Supply/demand balance should tighten further in 2024 and 2025.**