

# What's on the Horizon for Shipping Finance?

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# Current Shipping Finance Themes

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## Earnings

- Prevailing freight rates at or near historic lows are creating liquidity problems for even the strongest shipping companies

## Debt Covenants

- Financial and 'Loan-to-Value' covenants under pressure

## Bank Debt

- European Banks are temporarily paralyzed and bank debt is difficult to secure

## Equity Markets

- Equity markets remain important for shipping, but new issuance is on hold

## Private Equity

- Private equity is becoming more active in shipping

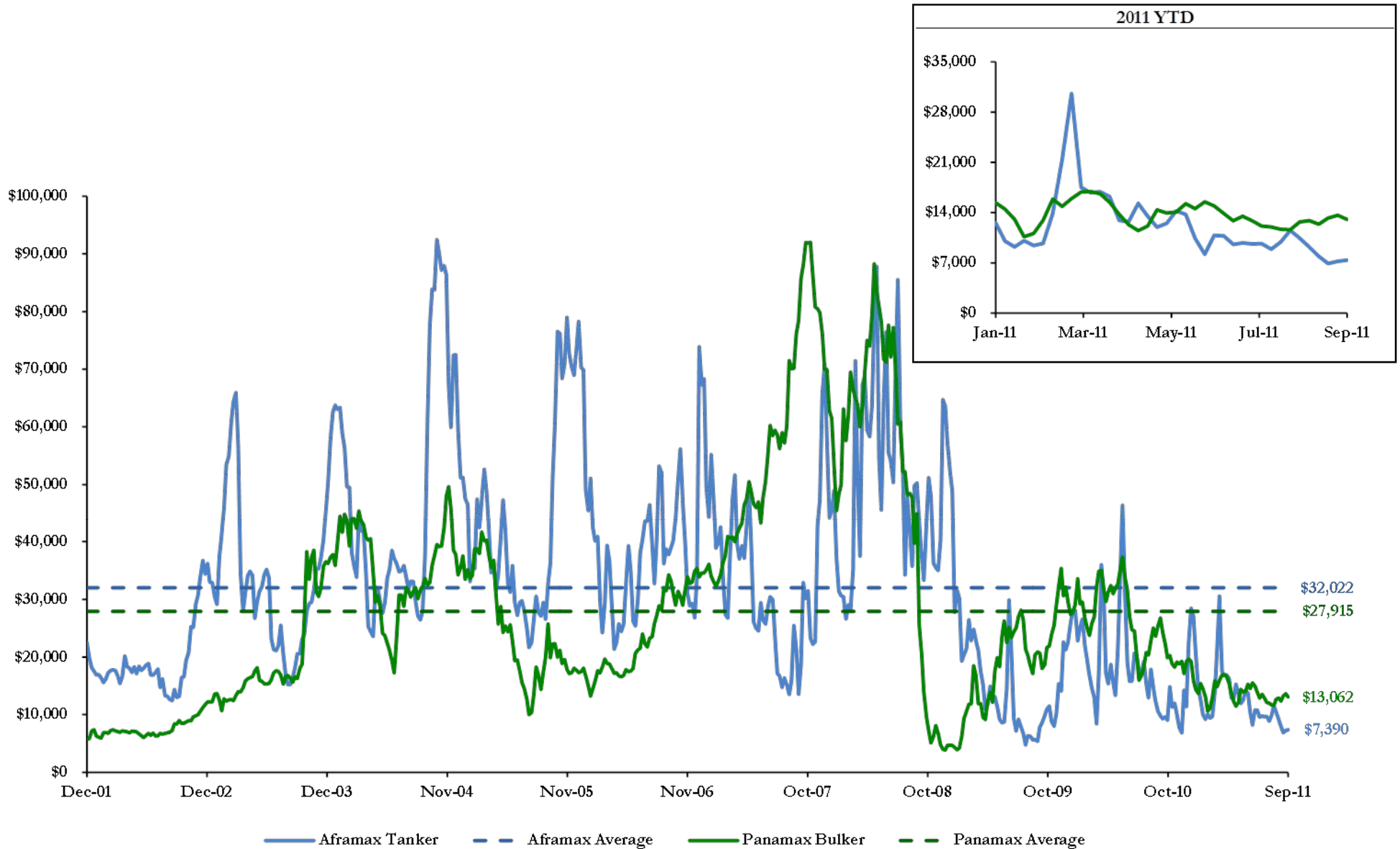
## Distress Deals

- Distress transactions are becoming more common

# Earnings – Liquidity Under Pressure as Freight Rates at Historic Lows

## Aframax Tanker and Panamax Bulker Spot Earnings 2001 - 2011

(\$ per Day)

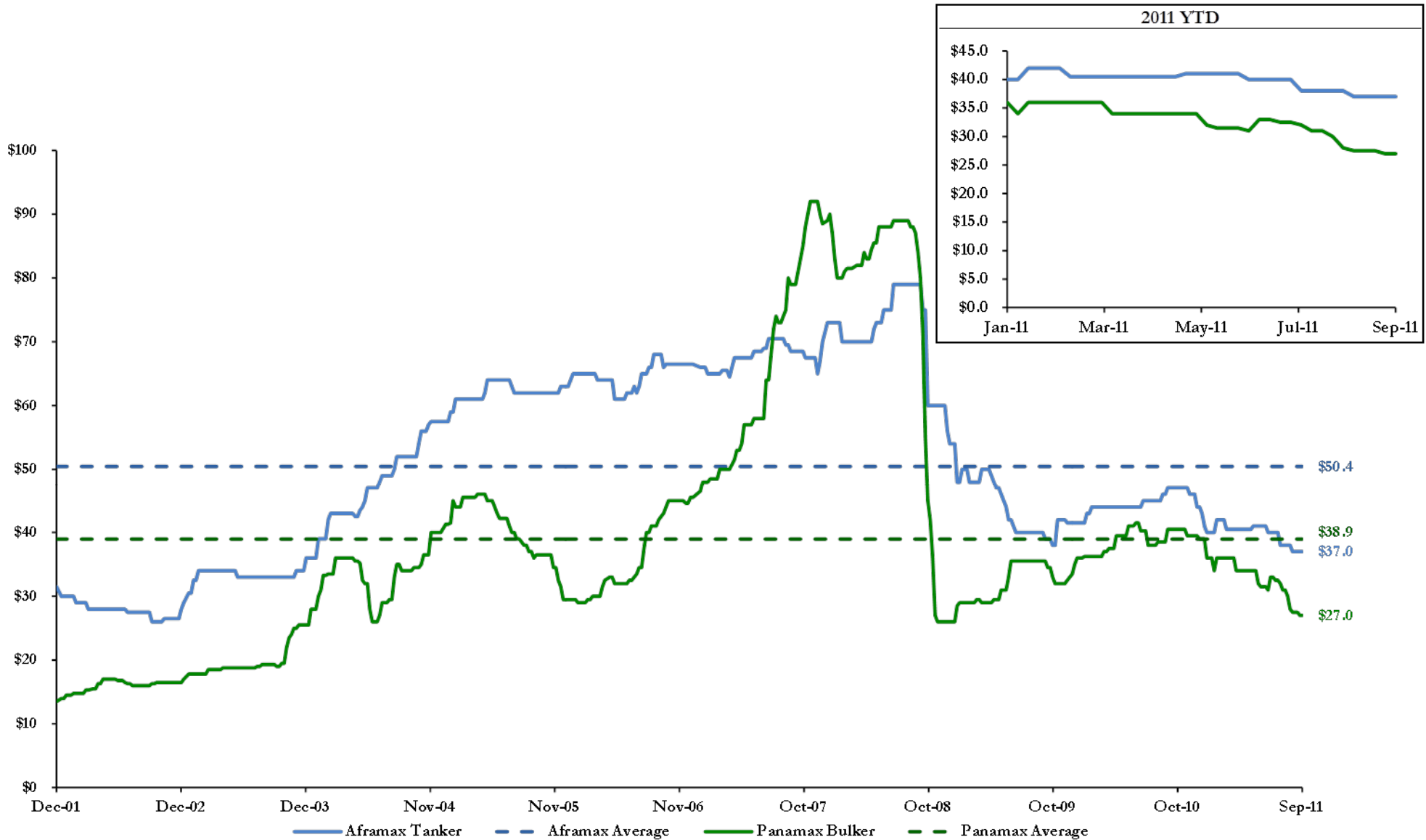


Source: Clarkson Research Services

# Debt Covenants – Balance Sheets and ‘Loan-to-Values’ Under Pressure as Values Decline

## Aframax Tanker and Panamax Bulker 5 Year Old Secondhand Vessel Values

(\$ in millions)



Source: Clarkson Research Services

## Bank Debt – Increasingly Difficult to Secure

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### European Banks

- European banks are the main providers of ship finance
- Limited balance sheet availability– focus on core relationship customers
- Difficulty in securing U.S. Dollar funding

### Bank Market Contraction

- Bank mergers disproportionately affected shipping banks
- UK/Irish banks have substantially reduced lending or exited shipping
- German and Dutch banks have reduced lending

### Limited Alternatives

- Asian banks are not a solution for non-Asian ship-owners
- Export Credit Agency, private placement, and capital markets options actively pursued, but bank debt remains core source of ship finance

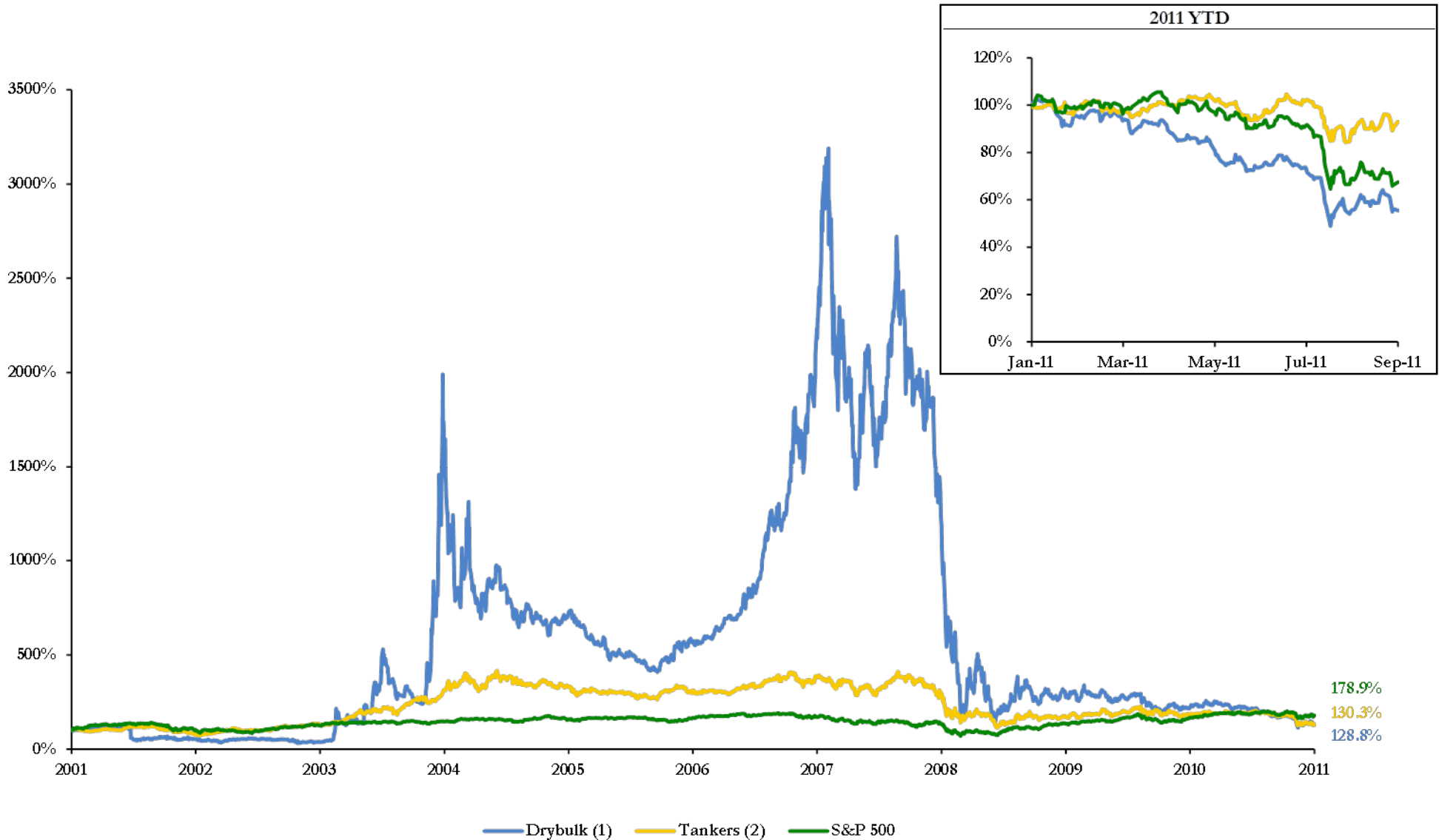
### Terms & Conditions

- More equity required – ‘50% is the new 70%’
- Margins have more than doubled
- Tougher covenants

# Equity Markets - Shipping Stocks Have Fallen Significantly from pre-Crisis Highs

## Tanker and Bulker Stocks vs. S&P 500 Since 2001

(indexed)



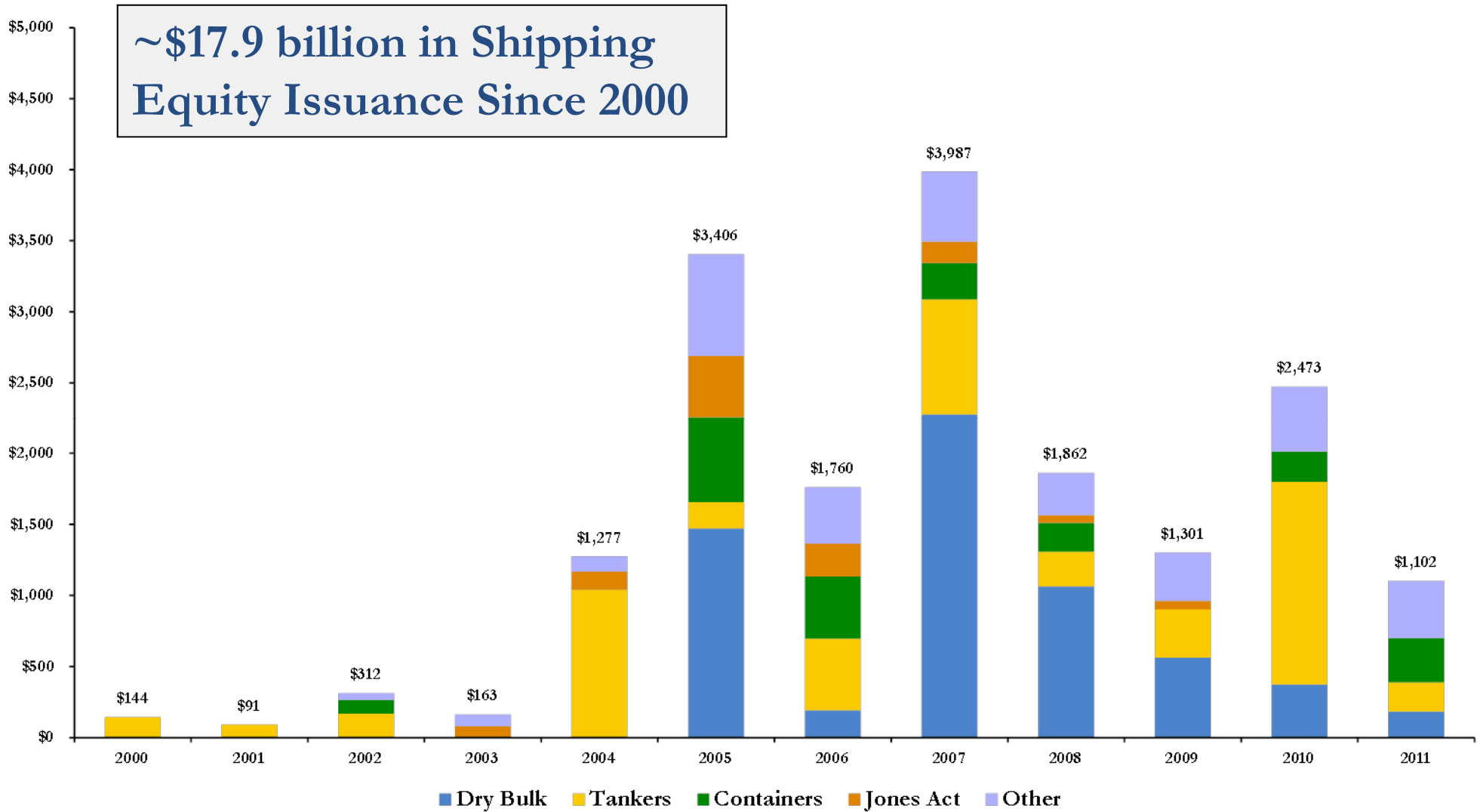
Source: Factset

- (1) Includes Baltic Trading, Diana Shipping, DryShips, Eagle Bulk, Euroseas, Excel Maritime, Genco, Navios Maritime, Oceanfreight, Paragon Shipping, Safe Bulkers, Star Bulk and TBS International
- (2) Includes Crude Carriers, DHT Maritime, Frontline, General Maritime, Knightsbridge, Omega Navigation, Overseas Shipholding Group, Ship Finance, Teekay Corp, Teekay Tankers and Tsakos

# Equity Markets - Remain Important Source of Capital

## Follow-on and IPO Activity Since 2000

(\$ in millions)



Source: Dealogic

## Private Equity - Increasing Exposure to Shipping

- Particularly active in shipping since beginning of financial crisis as shipping seen as a 'distress' sector and the market downturn was seen as potentially a good cyclical entry point
- Preference for more liquid commoditized sectors such as dry bulk and tankers
- Initial preference to partner with ship-owners, however current trend is to hire experienced shipping executives for a start-up
- High return expectations and 'carry cost' require successful timing of entry point

### Recent Investors in Shipping



WL ROSS & CO.



R H Ô N E

LITTLEJOHN & CO.

ETON PARK CAPITAL  
MANAGEMENT

## 'Distress' Deals - Remain Elusive but are Beginning to Take Place

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### Distress Deal Activity

- Activity levels quietly increasing, but remain moderate
- Distress not always publicized – 64 ship arrests in Singapore YTD 2011

### Typical Deals

- Deals tend to be for individual vessels – few fleet deals yet
- Bank action usually caused by liquidity event – ship-owner runs out of money
- Buyers in distress deals are usually established ship-owners working with their key banks (not private equity)
- Transactions usually structured and involve some form of soft-financing for the buyer

### Banks Deferring Action

- Banks understand cyclical nature of industry so want to keep kicking the can down the road – the preferred (and usually best) strategy
- Banks are not willingly taking haircuts