

Edgar Filing: TOP TANKERS INC. - Form 6-K

TOP TANKERS INC.  
Form 6-K  
December 21, 2006

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR  
15d-16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of December 2006

Commission File Number

TOP TANKERS INC.  
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

1, Vassilissis Sofias Meg. Alexandrou Str.  
151 24 Maroussi  
Greece

(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): \_\_\_\_

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)7: \_\_\_\_

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes  No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): \_\_\_\_\_.

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM 6-K REPORT

Included in this report on Form 6-K as Exhibit 1 is the press release issued by TOP Tankers Inc. (the "Company") on December 21, 2006 announcing the Company's exercise of an option to purchase two additional Handymax product/chemical tankers.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

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TOP TANKERS INC.

Dated: December 21, 2006

By /s/ Stamatis N. Tsantanis

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Name: Stamatis N. Tsantanis  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

NEWS RELEASE for December 21, 2006

Contact: Michael Mason (investors)  
Allen & Caron Inc  
212 691 8087  
michaelm@allencaron.com

Stamatis Tsantanis, CFO  
TOP Tankers Inc  
011 30 210 812 8199  
snt@toptankers.com

TOP TANKERS ANNOUNCES EXERCISE OF OPTION FOR  
TWO ADDITIONAL NEWBUILDING HANDYMAXES

ATHENS, GREECE (December 21, 2006) ... TOP Tankers Inc (NasdaqGS:TOPT), announced today that it has exercised its option for two additional 50,000 dwt Product / Chemical tankers. As with the previously announced four newbuildings, all the vessels will be sister ships built by SPP Shipbuilding Co, Ltd of South Korea and are expected to be delivered during the first and second quarters of 2009.

All six newbuildings will be funded with secured credit lines and working capital.

About TOP Tankers Inc

TOP Tankers Inc is an international provider of worldwide seaborne crude oil and petroleum products transportation services. The Company operates a fleet of 24 tankers, consisting of 13 double-hull Suezmax tankers and 11 double-hull Handymax tankers, with a total carrying capacity of approximately 2.5 million dwt, of which 88.2% are sister ships. Fifteen of the Company's 24 tankers are on time charter contracts with an average term of over three years with all but three of the time charters including profit sharing agreements.

Forward Looking Statement  
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Matters discussed in this release may constitute forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance and may include statements concerning plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance, and underlying assumptions and other statements, which are other than statements of historical facts.

The forward-looking statements in this release are based upon various assumptions, many of which are based, in turn, upon further assumptions, including without limitation, management's examination of historical operating trends, data contained in our records and other data available from third parties. Although TOP Tankers believes that these assumptions were reasonable

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when made, because these assumptions are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies which are difficult or impossible to predict and are beyond our control, TOP Tankers cannot assure you that it will achieve or accomplish these expectations, beliefs or projections.

Important factors that, in our view, could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include the strength of world economies and currencies, general market conditions, including changes in charterhire rates and vessel values, failure of a seller to deliver one or more vessels, failure of a buyer to accept delivery of a vessel, inability to procure acquisition financing, changes in demand for oil and petroleum products, the effect of changes in OPEC's petroleum production levels and worldwide oil consumption and storage, changes in demand that may affect attitudes of time charterers, scheduled and unscheduled drydocking, changes in our voyage and operating expenses, including bunker prices, dry-docking and insurance costs, changes in governmental rules and regulations including requirements for double-hull tankers or actions taken by regulatory authorities, potential liability from pending or future litigation, domestic and international political conditions, potential disruption of shipping routes due to accidents and political events or acts by terrorists.

Risks and uncertainties are further described in reports filed by TOP Tankers with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

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