

# GALAXY LEADER

IMO No: 9237307 CAR CARRIER 2002 / 48710 GT

## COMPANY:

Ray Car Carriers Ltd, Isle of Man  
(Stamco Ship Management Co Ltd,  
Greece)

## YARD INFORMATION:

Stocznia Gdynia SA  
(Poland) 8213/1

## DEMOLITION:



Singapore 3/2/2010 © S. Wiedner

**2023:** Hijacked by Yemen Houthis in context with the war between Israel and Hamas.

## BASIC DATA:

GT: 48710  
DWT: 17127  
Cars: 5110  
Loa: 189.20  
Bmd: 32.26  
Draft: 9.50  
Engine: 1x oil Sulzer 7RTA62U  
Power: 15540 kW  
Speed: 20.4 kn  
Side door ramp (s)  
Quarter stern door ramp (s.a.)

## OWNER & FLAG HISTORY:

GALAXY LEADER since 01/06/2002  
Flag Date of record Source  
Bahamas during 2002  
Registered owner Date of record Source  
GALAXY MARITIME LTD-IOM during 2002  
Ship manager Date of record Source  
STAMCO SHIP MANAGEMENT CO LTD since 12/11/2002  
RAY CAR CARRIERS LTD during 2002

## NAME HISTORY:

GALAXY LEADER	2002-	Galaxy Maritime Ltd (Isle of Man), Bahamas
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## GENERAL VESSEL INFORMATION:

**2023:**

**Splash**  
247.com

# Car carrier seized by Houthis



Sam Chambers · November 20, 2023

A ship owned by Ray Car Carriers and operated by Japan's Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK) was hijacked by the Houthis in waters near the Yemeni coastline on Sunday, bringing instability to international trade lanes in the wake of war between Israel and Hamas.

The [Galaxy Leader](#) car carrier has a crew of 25. It was boarded by armed forces repelling from a helicopter, a method Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps have used in vessel seizures in the Strait of Hormuz in recent years. The ship has been taken to Salif port in Yemen.

Ray Car Carriers is controlled by Israeli tycoon Abraham Rami Ungar. Two vehicle carriers belonging to the same company were reportedly targeted by Iran in 2021 in the Gulf of Oman.



## Seized 'Galaxy Leader' Arrives in Yemen

November 21, 2023

LONDON (Reuters) – The Galaxy Leader commercial ship was “illegally boarded by military personnel via a helicopter” on Nov. 19 and is now in the Hodeidah port area in Yemen, the vessel’s owner said on Monday.



“All communications were subsequently lost with the vessel,” Isle of Man registered Galaxy Maritime Ltd, owner of the pure car carrier Galaxy Leader, said in a statement.

“The company, as a shipping concern, will not be commenting further on the political or geopolitical situation.”

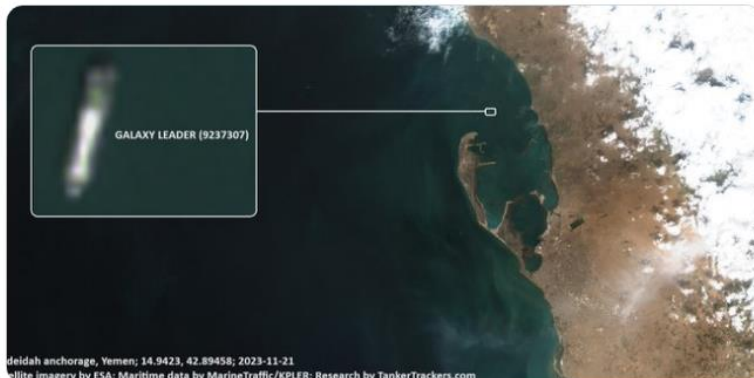
Yemen’s Iran-backed Houthis released [video footage](#) on Monday showing armed men dropping from a helicopter and seizing a cargo ship in the southern Red Sea.



TankerTrackers.com, Inc.

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And there she is, the vehicle carrier named GALAXY LEADER (9237307) in the anchorage of Hodeidah, Yemen this morning. She arrived yesterday.



1:59 PM · Nov 21, 2023



“The Houthi seizure of the motor vessel Galaxy Leader in the Red Sea is a flagrant violation of international law,” U.S. State Department spokesman Matthew Miller told a briefing. “We demand the immediate release of the ship and its crew and we will consult with our allies and U.N. partners as to appropriate next steps.”

The Bahamas-flagged Galaxy Leader’s crew is made up of nationals from Bulgaria, Ukraine, the Philippines, Mexico and Romania, Galaxy Maritime said. The vessel is [chartered](#) by Japan’s Nippon Yusen.

“Owners and managers believe the seizure of this vessel represents a gross violation of freedom of passage for the world fleet and a serious threat to international trade,” Galaxy Maritime said.

It added that the “key concern at this time is the safety and security of the 25 crew members currently being held by the perpetrators of this criminal act.”

(Reporting by Jonathan Saul; additional reporting by Jonathan Landay and Daphne Psaedakis from Washington; editing by Christina Fincher and David Gregorio)

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2024:

**Splash**  
247.com

May 3, 2024

An NYK-operated car carrier, the Galaxy Leader, remains in Yemeni waters, having been hijacked six months ago by the Houthis, while off the Horn of Africa, Somali pirates have resumed their ransom tactics, abducting two ships in recent months.

2025:

**qCaptain**

Watch: Israeli Forces Strike Houthi-Held Galaxy Leader in Escalating Red Sea Conflict

Mike Schuler

Total Views: 2643

July 8, 2025

Israel has struck the merchant ship *Galaxy Leader* at the port of Ras Isa, Yemen, as part of military operations targeting Houthi infrastructure at three Yemeni ports, according to Israeli military statements. The vessel has been held by Houthi forces since its seizure in November 2023.

 **Israeli Air Force**   
@IAFsite · [Follow](#) 

IAF fighter jets strike & dismantle terrorist infrastructure belonging to the Houthi terrorist regime at the port of Ras Isa, Yemen. Among the terror targets struck was the merchant ship *Galaxy Leader*, which was seized by the Houthi regime in November 2023.  
Watch:



The Israeli military claimed the Houthis had installed radar systems on the seized car carrier, using it to “track vessels in international maritime space in order to promote the Houthi terrorist regime’s activities.”

Last update: 19/7/2025