KUALA LUMPUR EXPRESS

IMO No: 9200811 CONTAINER 2000 / 54437 GT

COMPANY:

Costamare Shipping Co SA,
Greece
(Hapag-Lloyd charter)

YARD INFORMATION:

Hyundai Heavy Industries Co Ltd
(South Korea) 1230
Design: Hyundai 4800

DEMOLITION:

Hong Kong 12/1/2007 © S. Wiedner

2008: **Renamed OAKLAND EXPRESS** (Hapag-Lloyd charter).

Named OAKLAND EXPRESS Panama Canal 26/11/2019 © H. Rosenkranz www.rosenkranz-shipphotos.de

(S. Wiedner collection)

2021: **Renamed OAKLAND** (Hapag-Lloyd charter expired).

2023: Sold to Ocean Fleet Shipmanage Ltd, China / RC Shipping Ltd, British Virgin Islands. **Renamed FLYING FISH 1.**

2024: To Neom Line Holding Ltd, British Virgin Islands. **Renamed ISTANBUL BRIDGE**.

BASIC DATA:

GT: 54437
DWT: 68781
TEU: 4843
Reefer: 350
Loa: 294.06
Bmd: 32.26
Draft: 13.55
Engine: 1x oil MAN-B&W 7K98MC
Power: 40059 kW
Speed: 24.0 kn

OWNER & FLAG HISTORY:

ISTANBUL BRIDGE since 01/12/2024
FLYING FISH 1 since 01/12/2023
OAKLAND since 01/05/2021
OAKLAND EXPRESS since 01/01/2008
KUALA LUMPUR EXPRESS since 01/10/2000
HYUNDAI 1230 2000-05-12 LRF
Flag Date of record Source
Liberia since 01/12/2024
Panama since 01/10/2023
Hong Kong, China since 01/12/2013
Greece since 01/10/2000
Registered owner Date of record Source
NEOM LINE HOLDING LTD since 13/12/2024
RC SHIPPING LTD since 21/10/2023
FANAKOS MARITIME since 20/10/2000
Ship manager Date of record Source
NEOM LINE HOLDING LTD since 13/12/2024
RC SHIPPING LTD since 21/10/2023
OCEAN FLEET SHIPMANAGE LTD since 21/10/2023
V SHIPS SHANGHAI LTD since 17/12/2020
COSTAMARE SHIPPING CO SA since 15/12/2020
SHANGHAI COSTAMARE SHIP MGMT since 14/12/2013
COSTAMARE SHIPPING CO SA during 2000

NAME HISTORY:

KUALA LUMPUR EXPRESS	2000-08	Fanakos Maritime Corp., Greece
OAKLAND EXPRESS	2008-13	Fanakos Maritime Corp., Greece
OAKLAND EXPRESS	2013-21	Fanakos Maritime Corp., Hong Kong
OAKLAND	2021-23	Fanakos Maritime Corp., Hong Kong
FLYING FISH 1	2023-24	RC Shipping Ltd, Panama
ISTANBUL BRIDGE	2024-	Neom Line Holding Ltd, Liberia

GENERAL VESSEL INFORMATION:

2023:

ALPHALINER Weekly Newsletter

The 4,890 teu 'classic panamax' OAKLAND (Hyundai 4800) controlled by Costamare Shipping of Greece has reportedly been sold at a price said to be under USD 12 M. The buyer is believed to be Asian-based.

The vessel recently ended a charter with CMA CGM and is currently off Malta.

OAKLAND was built in 2000 in South Korea by Hyundai H.I, originally as the KUALA LUMPUR EXPRESS for Hapag-Lloyd. She features a deadweight of 66,781 tons, a length of 294 m and a beam of 32.30 m. The ship is fitted with 350 reefer plugs.

(Source: Alphaliner Weekly Newsletter 40/2023)

2024:

gCaptain

Arctic Shipping Route to See First-Ever Panamax Containership

Malte Humpert
Total Views: 2975
May 20, 2024

Russia's main Arctic shipping route is slated to see its first Panamax container vessel this year. The 4,890-TEU box ship, *Flying Fish 1*, received a permit to transit the country's Northern Sea Route this summer.

Flying Fish 1 would be the first Panamax container vessel to travel across the Arctic, nearly doubling the previous highpoint set by the 3,600-TEU *Venta Maersk* in 2018.

The 66,781-dwt vessel provides service as part of Safetrans Line's Trans-Russia liner loop between St. Petersburg and destinations in China. The vessel looks set to become part of the nascent China-Russia box trade via the Arctic.

The Arctic route allows vessels to avoid the ongoing conflict areas in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden without detouring via Cape Horn.

During summer 2023, Chinese company NewNew Shipping, sent four feedermax ships through the Arctic completing seven voyages between July and December. The shipper expects to expand its offering to a dozen voyages this summer.

One of NewNew Shipping's vessels, *NewNew Polar Bear*, was involved in damage to the Balticconnector gas pipeline and two subsea telecoms cables between Estonia and Finland.

Safetrans Line acquired the 24-year old *Flying Fish 1* in October 2023. Its Ice-1 ice class allows it to navigate all sectors of the Northern Sea Route independently without icebreaker escort in ice-free and light ice conditions between July and October. The permit details suggest a planned round trip voyage between early August and October.

2025:

gCaptain

Chinese Panamax Containership Crosses Arctic in Just Six Days on Emerging Europe-Asia Shortcut

Malte Humpert
Total Views: 2764
September 4, 2025

A Chinese-operated Panamax container ship steamed across Russia's Northern Sea Route in just 6 days underscoring the emergence of a faster Europe-Asia shipping route. The full crossing of the Polar region from the waters above Norway to the Bering Sea took an additional 24 hours.

Istanbul Bridge departed from St. Petersburg on August 18 and is expected in Qingdao on September 12, completing the Europe to Asia route via the Arctic in just 25 days. Later this month the 4,890 TEU vessel will inaugurate a new China-Europe Arctic Express operated by Haijie Shipping Company.

The quick pace comes despite persistent sea ice in the eastern reaches of the route, which thwarted non ice-class LNG carriers over the weekend from proceeding along the route. With a low 1C ice-class *Istanbul Bridge* was able to maintain between 12 and 14 knots even through the sea ice in the East Siberian Sea and closely hugged the coastline into the Chukchi Sea avoiding much of the ice covered waters.

Splash247.com

China's Sea Legend launches Arctic express box service to Europe

Sam Chambers • September 22, 2025 1 444 1 minute read

Niche Chinese liner Sea Legend Shipping launched a direct container service between China and northern Europe via the Northern Sea Route (NSR) over the weekend, dispatching the 4,890 teu *Istanbul Bridge* on a voyage that is scheduled to take just 18 days to reach Europe.

The voyage, calling at Qingdao, Shanghai, Ningbo, Felixstowe, Rotterdam, Hamburg and Gdansk, is something the line is looking to make a regular service during warmer months. The vessel previously ran as the *Flying Fish 1* and undertook an Arctic voyage in 2023.

Sea Legend is a Chinese-controlled carrier that emerged during the Red Sea crisis with Chinese-flagged, security-hardened ships operating under PLA Navy escort.

The company has targeted premium cargo for its new Arctic service with high time sensitivity, such as electronics and fashion, hoping to capitalise on faster delivery cycles and inventory efficiencies.

Another Chinese shipping line, New New Shipping, began a liner service on the NSR in 2023.

Last update: 22/9/2025