

Appetite for construction

Historic container ship deliveries could tip market into overcapacity

By Greg Knowler

MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING CO.'S (MSC) gargantuan vessel orderbook — with a combined capacity greater than that of Hapag-Lloyd's entire fleet — will give the container shipping industry its first glimpse of the tidal waves of tonnage that will hit the water over the next two-and-a-half years.

Carriers have newbuild vessels with an aggregate capacity of 7.48 million TEU on order, equal to 28.8 percent of the existing global fleet, according to maritime analyst

