

Interim Report Q3 2017

22 November 2017 CVR-no. 76 35 17 16

Summary

The comparison figures for period ended 30 September 2016 ("9M 2016") are stated in parenthesis.

Since 2016, the weakening market has continued to impact the tanker industry. TCE revenue fell to USD 18.0 million (USD 22.0 million) for the 9 months ended 30 September 2017 ("9M 2017"). As a result, the Group incurred a loss after tax of USD 2.2 million in 9M 2017 compared to a profit of USD 1.4 million in the same period last year (or a loss after tax of USD 3.7 million after accounting for a one-off impairment loss of USD 5.1 million). No impairment loss was recognised in the period under review.

The reduction in profit of USD 3.6 million was mainly attributable to the lower tanker Time Charter Equivalent ("TCE") revenue from the vessels deployed in the two pools. The loss of earnings arising from the dry-docking of Nordic Hanne in June 2017 also contributed to the decrease.

Expenses relating to the operation of vessels in 9M 2017 was marginally lower at USD 11.1 million (USD 11.4 million) compared to the same period last year.

EBITDA fell to USD 5.4 million (USD 9.2 million) primarily due to the reduction in TCE revenue in 9M 2017.

The Group did not make any impairment nor reversal of impairment during the 9M 2017 (impairment loss of USD 5.1 million in 9M 2016). But development is monitored closely due to market uncertainties.

After accounting for depreciation, interest expenses and other finance expenses, the loss after tax in 9M 2017 was USD 2.2 million (loss after tax of USD 3.7 million).

Under the loan agreement, cash in excess of USD 6.0 million will be used to pay down the loan facility. As the cash balance did not exceed USD 6.0 million, there was no cash sweep for the period under review. For the same period last year, there was a cash sweep of USD 2.7 million.

During the financial period, cash flow generated from operations was USD 3.2 million (USD 6.0 million) mainly from earnings by the two pools and time-charter income received for Nordic Anne, offset by payment of periodic interest expenses on the term loan. During the financial period, the Group invested USD 1.2 million (USD 0.1 million) in dry-docking. The Group made a partial repayment of USD 3.5 million (USD 6.5 million, including a USD 2.7 million cash sweep) on the term loan facility. As at 30 September 2017, cash and cash equivalents was USD 3.5 million (USD 6.0 million).

Given the current soft sentiments on the tankers' market, the Board has revised downwards the outlook for 2017 against the guidance indicated in the Interim Report H1 2017. The result before tax is expected to be between USD -4.5 million – USD -2.5 million, decreased from USD -3.5 million – USD -1.5 million.

Consolidated financial highlights

	YTD 30 Sep	YTD 30 Sep	FY 2016
Amounts in USD thousand	2017	2016	F1 2010
Time charter equivalent revenue (TCE revenue)	17,990	22,025	27,703
EBITDA	5,394	9,170	10,753
Operating result (EBIT)	298	(1,242)	(1,392)
Net finance expenses	(2,518)	(2,455)	(3,386)
Result after tax	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
Equity ratio (%)	32.3%	32.9%	32.7%
Earnings per share US cents	(0.55)	(0.91)	(1.18)
Market price per share DKK, period end	0.73	0.92	0.76
Market price per share USD, period end	0.12	0.14	0.11
Exchange rate USD/DKK, period end	6.30	6.63	7.07
Number of shares, period end	406,158,403	406,158,403	406,158,403
Average number of shares	406,158,403	406,158,403	406,158,403

Company data

Company

Nordic Shipholding A/S (the "Company")

Sundkrogsgade 19, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

CVR- no. 76 35 17 16

Website: www.nordicshipholding.com

Registered office: Copenhagen

Contact persons regarding this interim report: Knud Pontoppidan, Chairman

Philip Clausius, CEO

Executive Management

Philip Clausius, CEO

Board of Directors

Knud Pontoppidan, Chairman Jon Robert Lewis, Deputy Chairman Kristian V. Mørch Kanak Kapur Philip Clausius

Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Statsautoriseret Revisionspartnerselskab

Forward-looking statements

This report contains forward-looking statements reflecting Nordic Shipholding A/S's current beliefs concerning future events. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to uncertainty, and Nordic Shipholding A/S's actual results may thus differ significantly from expectations. Factors which could cause actual results to deviate from the expectations include, but not limited to, changes in macroeconomic, regulatory and political conditions, especially on the Company's main markets, changes in currency exchange and interest rates, freight rates, operating expenses and vessel prices as well as possible disruptions of traffic and operations resulting from outside events.

Management's review

The Group with its six vessels, continues to be a tonnage provider in the product tanker segment. The five handysize tankers remain commercially managed by the UPT Handy Pool (Nordic Agnetha, Nordic Amy and Nordic Ruth) and Hafnia Handy Pool (Nordic Pia and Nordic Hanne). The pool agreement, which qualify as joint operation are recognised and measured in the consolidated financial statements pro rata with the Group's ownership interest and presented on a line-by-line basis in the consolidated financial statements. For the other pool, which does not qualify as a joint operation, the accounting is made on a "net-basis", i.e. Time Charter Equivalent ("TCE") for income and "net" for assets and liabilities. This has resulted in an overall reduction in revenue, compared to 9M 2016.

In 9M 2017, the average daily TCE rate earned by the vessels in the two pools was also lower than the forecasted daily rate, whilst the LR1 vessel (Nordic Anne) tracked the forecasted daily rate.

The LR1 tanker (Nordic Anne) was redelivered upon the completion of the 3-year time charter in October 2017, and simultaneously re-entered the Straits Tankers Pool.

Financial results for the period 1 January - 30 September 2017

The comparison figures for the same period in 2016 are stated in parenthesis.

The Group incurred a loss after tax of USD 2.2 million in 9M 2017 compared to a profit of USD 1.4 million in the same period last year (or a loss after tax of USD 3.7 million after accounting for a one-off impairment loss of USD 5.1 million). No impairment loss was recognised in the period under review.

The reduction in profit of USD 3.6 million was mainly attributable to the lower tanker TCE revenue from the vessels deployed in the two pools. The loss of earnings arising from the dry-docking of Nordic Hanne in June 2017 also contributed to the decrease.

Expenses relating to the operation of vessels in 9M 2017 was marginally lower at USD 11.1 million (USD 11.4 million) compared to the same period last year.

EBITDA fell to USD 5.4 million (USD 9.2 million) primarily due to the reduction in TCE revenue in 9M 2017.

The Group did not make any impairment nor reversal of impairment during the 9M 2017 (impairment loss of USD 5.1 million in 9M 2016). But development is monitored closely due to market uncertainties.

During the financial period, depreciation amounted to USD 5.1 million (USD 5.4 million). The lower depreciation expense was due to the one-off impairment loss of USD 5.1 million recognised in 9M 2016.

Net finance expenses were at USD 2.5 million (USD 2.5 million). The reduced loan balance was offset by higher 3M-USD LIBOR rates applicable in 9M 2017 as compared to the same period last year.

After accounting for depreciation, interest expenses and other finance expenses, the loss after tax in 9M 2017 was USD 2.2 million (loss after tax of USD 3.7 million).

Financial position as at 30 September 2017

The comparison figures for 30 September 2016 are stated in parenthesis.

Total assets amounted to USD 114.9 million (USD 122.9 million).

Vessels and docking stood at USD 104.7 million (USD 110.4 million). The change is due to the depreciation on the vessels which is offset with the capitalisation of dry-docking of Nordic Hanne.

Receivables balance was USD 5.8 million as at 30 September 2017 (USD 5.7 million).

From 30 September 2016 to 30 September 2017, net working capital¹ increased by USD 0.3 million from USD 3.8 million to USD 4.1 million.

Cash and cash equivalents stood at USD 3.5 million (USD 6.0 million), a reduction of USD 2.5 million from 30 September 2016. The reduction was due to lower TCE earnings during the period.

Between 30 September 2016 to 30 September 2017, equity decreased from USD 40.5 million to USD 37.2 million as a result of the cumulative loss during the period. Consequently, the equity ratio decreased marginally from 32.9% to 32.3% between 30 September 2016 to 30 September 2017.

Non-current liabilities fell to USD 68.4 million (USD 73.5 million), due to the periodic repayment of the term loan. Current liabilities at USD 9.4 million (USD 8.9 million) comprised the current portion of term loan of USD 6.7 million (USD 6.3 million) arising from regular instalments from October 2017 to September 2018, and other current liabilities of USD 2.7 million (USD 2.6 million).

Under the loan agreement, cash in excess of USD 6.0 million will be used to pay down the loan facility. As the cash balance did not exceed USD 6.0 million, there was no cash sweep for the period under review. For the same period last year, there was a cash sweep of USD 2.7 million.

Cash flow for the period 1 January - 30 September 2017

The comparison figures for the same period in 2016 are stated in parenthesis.

During the financial period, cash flow generated from operations was USD 3.2 million (USD 6.0 million) mainly from earnings by the two pools and time-charter income received for Nordic Anne, offset by payment of periodic interest expenses on the term loan. During the financial period, the Group invested USD 1.2 million (USD 0.1 million) in dry-docking. The Group made a partial repayment of USD 3.5 million (USD 6.5 million, including a USD 2.7 million cash sweep) on the term loan facility. As at 30 September 2017, cash and cash equivalents was USD 3.5 million (USD 6.0 million).

¹ Net working capital is defined as inventories, receivables and other current operating assets less trade payables and other liabilities (excluding provisions) as well as other current operating liabilities.

Events occurring after the end of the financial period

Except for the redelivery of Nordic Anne upon the completion of the 3-year time charter and her re-entry in the Straits Tankers Pool in October 2017, there is no other significant event which has occurred after 30 September 2017.

Outlook for 2017

Operationally, the six vessels are expected to remain commercially deployed in the UPT Handy Pool (three vessels), Hafnia Handy Pool (two vessels) and Straits Tankers Pool (one vessel), respectively.

Given the current soft sentiments on the tankers' market, the Board has revised downwards the outlook for 2017 against the guidance indicated in the Interim Report H1 2017. The EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation) is expected to be in the range of USD 5.0 million – USD 8.0 million, a reduction from USD 6.0 million – USD 9.0 million. The result before tax is expected to be between USD -4.5 million – USD -2.5 million, decreased from USD -3.5 million – USD -1.5 million. This revised outlook for 2017 does not take into account any impairment of vessels' carrying values.

The Board will look at growth and consolidation opportunities that are accretive to the Company.

Management statement

We have today considered and approved the interim financial statements of Nordic Shipholding A/S for the period 1 January – 30 September 2017.

The interim report, which has not been audited or reviewed, has been presented in accordance with IAS 34, *Interim Financial Reporting*, as adopted by the EU and additional Danish disclosure requirements for interim reports of listed companies.

In our opinion, the accounting policies applied are appropriate and the interim report gives a true and fair view of the Group's financial position at 30 September 2017 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the period 1 January – 30 September 2017. In our opinion, the management's review gives a true and fair review of the development in and results of the Group's operations and financial position as a whole and a specification of the significant risks and uncertainties facing the Group. Besides what has been disclosed in the interim report for the period 1 January – 30 September 2017, no changes in the Group's most significant risks and uncertainties have occurred relative to what was disclosed in the 2016 Annual Report.

Copenhagen, 22 November 2017

Executive Management

Philip Clausius, CEO

Board of Directors

Knud Pontoppidan Jon Robert Lewis Chairman Deputy Chairman

Kristian V. Mørch Kanak Kapur Philip Clausius

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income (condensed)

			YTD 30 Sep	YTD 30 Sep	
Amounts in USD thousand	Q3 2017	Q3 2016	2017	2016	FY 2016
Total revenue	7,550	7,219	24,378	27,983	35,693
Voyage related expenses	(2,204)	(1,608)	(6,388)	(5,958)	(7,990)
TCE revenue	5,346	5,611	17,990	22,025	27,703
Other income	-	-	-	-	15
Expenses related to the operation of vessels	(3,548)	(3,731)	(11,097)	(11,361)	(15,091)
Staff costs	(70)	(66)	(212)	(197)	(261)
Other external costs	(418)	(393)	(1,287)	(1,297)	(1,613)
EBITDA	1,310	1,421	5,394	9,170	10,753
Depreciation	(1,734)	(1,787)	(5,096)	(5,362)	(7,095)
Write-downs	-	(5,050)	-	(5,050)	(5,050)
Operating result (EBIT)	(424)	(5,416)	298	(1,242)	(1,392)
Financial expenses	(830)	(763)	(2,518)	(2,455)	(3,386)
Result before tax	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
Tax on result	-	-	-	-	
Result after tax	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	
Comprehensive income	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
B					
Distribution of result	(4.054)	(6.470)	(0.000)	(0.50=)	(4 ===0)
Parent Company	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
Non-controlling interest	- (4.054)	-	- (2.222)	- (2.50=)	- (4.770)
	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
Distribution of communication in comm					
Distribution of comprehensive income	(4.254)	(6.170)	(2.220)	(2.607)	(4.770)
Parent Company	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
Non-controlling interest	- (4.054)	-	- (2.222)	- (2.50=)	- (4.770)
	(1,254)	(6,179)	(2,220)	(3,697)	(4,778)
November of alcohol and of moving	406 450 400	406 450 400	406 450 400	406 450 403	406 150 463
Number of shares, end of period	406,158,403			406,158,403	
Earnings per share, US cents	(0.31)	, ,	(0.55)	, ,	(1.18)
Diluted earnings per share, US cents	(0.31)	(1.52)	(0.55)	(0.91)	(1.18)

Statement of financial position (condensed)

Other financial assets 1 8 2 Total non-current assets 104,678 110,363 108,65 Current assets Bunkers and lubricant stocks 1,004 801 89 Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85	Amounts in USD thousand	30 Sep 2017	30 Sep 2016	31 Dec 2016
Other financial assets 1 8 2 Total non-current assets 104,678 110,363 108,65 Current assets Bunkers and lubricant stocks 1,004 801 89 Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85	Non-current assets			
Total non-current assets 104,678 110,363 108,65 Current assets 801 89 Bunkers and lubricant stocks 1,004 801 89 Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85	Vessels and docking	104,677	110,355	108,622
Current assets Bunkers and lubricant stocks 1,004 801 89 Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Other financial assets	1	8	29
Bunkers and lubricant stocks 1,004 801 89 Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Total non-current assets	104,678	110,363	108,651
Bunkers and lubricant stocks 1,004 801 89 Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Current assets			
Receivables 5,796 5,693 5,94 Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85		1,004	801	894
Cash & cash equivalents 3,467 6,039 4,96 Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity 40,464 39,38 Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Receivables		5,693	5,943
Total current assets 10,267 12,533 11,80 Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities Current liabilities	Cash & cash equivalents	·	•	4,963
Total assets 114,945 122,896 120,45 Equity and liabilities Equity, Parent Company Equity, non-controlling interest Total equity 137,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities Current liabilities	·			11,800
Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest	Total assets	114,945		120,451
Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest				
Equity, Parent Company 37,163 40,464 39,38 Equity, non-controlling interest - Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,38 Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities Current liabilities				
Equity, non-controlling interest Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,383 Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities Current liabilities	• •			
Total equity 37,163 40,464 39,383 Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Equity, Parent Company	37,163	40,464	39,383
Liabilities Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Equity, non-controlling interest	-	-	
Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities	Total equity	37,163	40,464	39,383
Non-current liabilities Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities				
Finance loans, etc. 68,387 73,517 71,85 Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities				
Total non-current liabilities 68,387 73,517 71,85 Current liabilities		60.007	70 517	74.055
Current liabilities			•	
	Total non-current liabilities	68,387	73,517	71,855
Finance loans, etc. 6,698 6,268 6,69	Current liabilities			
	Finance loans, etc.	6,698	6,268	6,697
Other current liabilities 2,697 2,647 2,51	Other current liabilities	2,697	2,647	2,516
Total current liabilities 9,395 8,915 9,213	Total current liabilities	9,395	8,915	9,213
Total liabilities 77,782 82,432 81,06	Total liabilities	77,782	82,432	81,068
Equity and liabilities 114,945 122,896 120,45	Equity and liabilities	114,945	122,896	120,451

Statement of changes in equity (condensed)

	Share	Retained	Equity Parent o	Non- controlling	Total
Amounts in USD thousand	capital	earnings	company	interest	equity
Equity as at 1 January 2017	7,437	31,946	39,383	-	39,383
Result for the period	-	(2,220)	(2,220)	-	(2,220)
Other comprehensive income for the					
period	-	-	-	-	
Equity as at 30 September 2017	7,437	29,726	37,163	_	37,163

Amounts in USD thousand	Share capital	Retained earnings	Equity Parent company	Non- controlling interest	Total equity
Equity as at 1 January 2016	7,437	36,724	44,161	-	44,161
Result for the period	-	(3,697)	(3,697)	_	(3,697)
Other comprehensive income for the					
period	-	-	-	-	
Equity as at 30 September 2016	7,437	33,027	40,464	-	40,464

Statement of cash flow (condensed)

Amounts in USD thousand	YTD 30 Sep 2017	YTD 30 Sep 2016	Year 2016
Operating result (EBIT)	298	(1,242)	(1,392)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and write-downs	5,096	10,412	12,145
Non-cash financial expenses	-	-	(68)
Operating profit before working capital changes	5,394	9,170	10,685
Changes in working capital	193	(718)	(1,168)
Net financial expenses paid	(2,407)	(2,457)	(3,348)
Cash flows from operating activities	3,180	5,995	6,169
Investments in tangible assets	(1,151)	(115)	(115)
Net cash from investing activities	(1,151)	(115)	(115)
Purchase of interest rate caps	(35)	-	-
Repayment of finance loans	(3,490)	(6,475)	(7,725)
Net cash from financing activities	(3,525)	(6,475)	(7,725)
Cash flows for the period	(1,496)	(595)	(1,671)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	4,963	6,634	6,634
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	3,467	6,039	4,963

Notes

1. Accounting policies

The interim report has been presented as a condensed set of financial statements in accordance with IAS 34, *Interim Financial Reporting*, as adopted by the EU and additional Danish disclosure requirements for interim reports of listed companies. The accounting policies have been consistently applied. For a further description of the accounting policies, see the 2016 Annual Report for Nordic Shipholding A/S.

New IAS/IFRSs

Nordic Shipholding A/S has implemented the new financial reporting standards or interpretations which were effective from 1 January 2017. The changes have no impact on Nordic Shipholding A/S's results or equity in the interim report and disclosure in the notes.

2. Accounting estimates

Impairment tests

In accordance with IAS 36, intangible assets with indefinite lives are tested for impairment at least annually and tangible assets are tested if there are indications of impairment. The Group evaluates the carrying amount of vessels within two cash generating units – LR1 vessel deployed in the Straits Tankers Pool and handysize vessels deployed in the two pools respectively - to determine whether events have occurred that would require an adjustment to the recognised value of the vessels.

In 9M 2017, there was no impairment loss recognised or reversal of impairment writedown. We have assessed that there is no further reversal of the impairment loss that was recognised in 2012 for the vessels deployed in the two pools.

The value in use calculation is sensitive to fluctuations in freight rates. As an indication of this sensitivity, a fluctuation of 3.0% on the daily long-term TCE rate would, all things being equal, change the calculated value in use by USD 1.9 million for the LR1 tanker and USD 6.7 million for the five handysize vessels. If the daily long-term TCE rate decreases by 3%, there would be no impairment loss for the LR1 tanker and an impairment loss of USD 4.3 million for the five handysize vessels.

Another key assumption used in the value in use calculation is its weighted average cost of capital (WACC). The WACC takes into account both debt and equity. The cost of equity is derived from the expected return on investment by the Group's investors. The cost of debt is based on the interest-bearing borrowings the Group is obliged to service. Similarly, a fluctuation of 0.5 percentage points on the WACC would, all things being equal, change the calculated value in use by USD 1.1 million for the LR1 tanker and USD 2.6 million for the five handysize vessels. If the WACC increases by 0.5 percentage points, there would be no impairment loss for the LR1 tanker and an impairment loss of USD 0.2 million for the five handysize vessels.

Depreciation

Depreciation on vessels is material for the Group. Vessels are depreciated over their useful life, which management estimates to be 25 years, to a residual value. The estimates are reassessed regularly based on available information. Changes to estimates of useful lives and residual values may affect the depreciation for the period. There was no change to the estimates of useful lives and residual values during 9M 2017. The carrying amount of vessels as at 30 September 2017 amounted to USD 104.7 million (30 September 2016: USD 110.4 million; 31 December 2016: USD 108.6 million).

3. Finance loans

As at 30 September 2017, the Group had outstanding finance loans of USD 75.1 million (30 September 2016: USD 79.8 million; 31 December 2016: USD 78.6 million). The reduction in finance loans between the periods was due to partial repayment on term loan.