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(TradeWinds)

Petrobras takes Heidmar tanker

Petrobras of Brazil has reportedly taken the 88,000-dwt tanker Heidmar Vigour (built 1995) on a 12-month time charter from November at USD 18,000 per day.

Last month, the Heidmar Vigour was taken on bareboat charter by US-based Heidenreich Marine (Heidmar) in a deal struck with troubled Greek owner Blue Flag Navigation and its creditors. The bareboat charter runs for four years, including a purchase option. Heidmar president Per Heidenreich could not reveal financial terms of the deal, but brokers have suggested it values the tanker at USD 30m.

The vessel, formerly Faneromeni, has just completed a USD 1.5m docking at the Keppel shipyard in Singapore. The tanker was built at the Constantza shipyard in Romania.

Heidenreich has said that the vessel was "somewhat neglected" by Blue Flag because of the group's financial problems, but that it would be in great shape after the Keppel work.

Petrobras has reportedly taken another Constantza-built tanker on a 12-month time charter, the 84,000-dwt Hope (built 1996), which is said to be getting USD 17,750 per day. That vessel, also formerly in the Blue Flag fleet, has been acquired by TransPetrol of Belgium as Panagia.

By Trond Lillestolen