

Fairplay

TTA raises \$132.2M

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TTA SAID today it has raised 3.964Bn baht (\$132.2M) through a rights offering.

Thoresen Thai Agencies added that it plans to use the proceeds “to fund its business expansion plans”.

The group noted that its growth strategy “is counter-cyclical”: invest now while prices reflect the bottom of the trade cycle, in hope for an upturn in the next 18 months.

“Now that the rights issue has been completed successfully, we will put our focus towards identifying and purchasing assets for our drybulk shipping and offshore services businesses,” executive vice-chairman and Chalermchai Mahagitsiri said.

“We have already begun to explore opportunities to purchase targeted assets in the newbuild and secondhand market,” added ML Chandchutha Chandratat, TTA’s president and CEO.

With its banking partners in “continued support, we expect to be able to execute well-priced purchases on advantageous terms that will help build long-term, sustainable value through a lower-cost asset base than many of our competitors”, he added.

The purchase of newbuild tender drilling rigs will also be explored since Mermaid Maritime Public, in which TTA is invested, has two active tender drilling rigs approaching the end of their useful lives, the company added.