According to a first aspect, there is provided a container ship configured for stowing a plurality of shipping containers above the open deck, said container ship comprising:
at least one optical sensor arranged to capture one or more images of a viewing field of view forward of the bow of the container ship wherein at least a part of the viewing field of view is a blindspot which is not in direct line of sight from a bridge, wherein the bridge is provided with: instruments for direction, instruments for engine, and
at least one display coupled to said at least one optical sensor for real time reproduction of the one or more images including the blindspot captured by said optical sensor.

By providing a container ship with at least one optical sensor such a digital video camera arranged to capture a field of view that cannot be seen from the bridge, such as e.g. the area directly forward of the bow of the container ship and by displaying the images captured by the optical sensor on a display screen or the like on the bridge it becomes possible to locate the bridge at any desirable location in the container ship, even in a location where there is no outside view you to the outside, and allow the crew of the container ship to control/command the container ship from the bridge. Being able to place the bridge at any desired location on the container ship while still providing the required visual and possibly this information allows the flow area of the open deck to be used for stowing containers without the height of the containers stowed above deck being limited by a line of sight from a conventional bridge to the sea surface forward of the bow. These new possibilities allow a significant increase in the number of containers that can be stowed on a container ship of a given size.

In a first possible implementation form of the first aspect the bridge is not provided with any windows that provide a view of the area ahead of the container ship.

In a second possible implementation form of the first aspect
the at least one optical sensor is arranged such that it provides a field of view to the sea surface forward of the bow of the container ship that starts at a distance that is less than the lesser of two ship lengths or 500 m forward of the container ship.

CLAIMS

1. A container ship configured for stowing a plurality of shipping containers above the open deck, said container ship comprising:

at least one optical sensor arranged to capture one or more images of a viewing field of view forward of the bow of the container ship wherein at least a part of the viewing field of view is a blindspot which is not in direct line of sight from a bridge,

wherein the bridge is provided with:

instruments for direction,

instruments for engine, and

at least one display coupled to said at least one optical sensor for real time reproduction of the one or more images including the blindspot captured by said optical sensor.

2. A container ship according to claim 1, wherein said at least one optical sensor is arranged such that it provides a field of view to the sea surface forward of the bow of the container ship that starts at a distance that is less than the lesser of two ship lengths or 500 m forward of the container ship.

3. A container ship according to claim 2, wherein said at least one optical sensor is arranged such that it provides a field of view to the sea surface forward of the bow of the container ship that starts at a distance that is less than the lesser of two ship lengths or 500 m forward of the bow to at least 10° on either side under all conditions of draught, trim and containers stowed on deck.

4. A container ship according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said at least one optical sensor is placed on the container ship such that the view of the at least one optical sensor of the area forward of the container ship is substantially unobstructed by any part of the container ship, and preferably not obstructed either by any containers stowed on the open deck of said container ship.