

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3

May 22, 2002

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 23

DATED: May 21, 2002

(To Prospectus dated January 25, 2002,
and Prospectus Supplement dated January 25, 2002)

Rule 424(b)(3)

File No. 333-76894

\$10,006,693,162

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$125,000,000 Floating Rate Notes Book Entry Notes

Original Issue Date: 5/22/2002 Fixed Rate Notes Certificated Notes

Maturity Date: 5/22/2003 CUSIP#: 073928XD0

Option to Extend Maturity: No
Yes Final Maturity Date:

| Redeemable On ----- | Redemption Price(s) ----- | Optional Repayment Date(s) ----- | Optional Repayment Price(s) ----- |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Dates:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis: Maximum Interest Rate: N/A

Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate: N/A

Federal Funds Effective Rate

Federal Funds Open Rate Interest Reset Date(s): Daily

Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Daily

LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): *

LIBOR Telerate

Prime Rate

CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 1.83% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (plus or minus): + 0.15%

* On the 22nd of August, November, February and at Maturity.

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The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.