

**Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3**

**BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC**

**Form 424B3**

**April 05, 2002**

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 17

Rule 424(b)(3)

DATED: April 1, 2002

File No. 333-76894

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

\$10,006,693,162  
THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
Medium-Term Notes, Series B

Principal Amount: \$10,000,000      Floating Rate Notes [ ]      Book Entry Notes [x]

Original Issue Date: 4/18/2002      Fixed Rate Notes [x]      Certificated Notes [ ]

Maturity Date: 4/18/2022      CUSIP#: 073928WX7

Option to Extend Maturity:      No      [x]  
    Yes      [ ]      Final Maturity Date:

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

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

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Interest Rate: 7.10%

Interest Payment Dates:\*\*

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

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Interest Rate Basis:

Maximum Interest Rate:

[ ] Commercial Paper Rate

Minimum Interest Rate:

[ ] Federal Funds Effective Rate

[ ] Federal Funds Open Rate

Interest Reset Date(s):

[ ] Treasury Rate

Interest Reset Period:

[ ] LIBOR Reuters

Interest Payment Date(s):

[ ] LIBOR Telerate

[ ] Prime Rate

[ ] CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Period:

Index Maturity:

Spread (plus or minus):

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- \* Commencing April 18, 2006 and on the interest payment dates thereafter until Maturity, the Notes may be called in whole at par at the option of the Company on ten calendar days notice.
- \*\* Commencing May 18, 2002 and on the 18th of each month thereafter until Maturity or until the Notes are called.

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