

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

**BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC**  
**Form 424B3**  
**January 16, 2004**

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 8  
 DATED: January 13, 2004  
 (To Prospectus dated November 17, 2003,  
 and Prospectus Supplement dated November 17, 2003)

Rule 424(b) (3)  
 File No. 333-109793

\$10,668,950,162  
 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
 Medium-Term Notes, Series B

Principal Amount: \$500,000,000    Floating Rate Notes     Book Entry Notes   
 Original Issue Date: 1/16/2004    Fixed Rate Notes     Certificated Notes   
 Maturity Date: 1/17/2006    CUSIP#: 073928D34  
 Option to Extend Maturity:    No      
                                             Yes        Final Maturity Date:

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

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:  
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Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Dates:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:  
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Interest Rate Basis:	Maximum Interest Rate: N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Paper Rate	Minimum Interest Rate: N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Funds Effective Rate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Funds Open Rate	Interest Reset Date(s): *
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasury Rate	Interest Reset Period: Quarterly
<input type="checkbox"/> LIBOR Reuters	Interest Payment Date(s): **
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LIBOR Telerate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prime Rate	
<input type="checkbox"/> CMT Rate	
Initial Interest Rate: 1.18%	Interest Payment Period: Quarterly
Index Maturity: Three Months	

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Spread (plus or minus): +0.06%

\* Commencing April 17, 2004 and on the 17th of each July, October, January and April thereafter prior to Maturity.

\*\* Commencing April 17, 2004 and on the 17th of each July, October, January and April thereafter, including the maturity date.

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