

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3

October 22, 2002

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 43

Rule 424(b) (3)

DATED: October 21, 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: \$50,000,000 Floating Rate Notes  Book Entry Notes

Original Issue Date: 10/22/2002 Fixed Rate Notes  Certificated Notes

Maturity Date: 4/19/2005 CUSIP#: 073928XZ1

Option to Extend Maturity: No   
Yes  Final Maturity Date:

| Redeemable On<br>----- | Redemption<br>Price(s)<br>----- | Optional<br>Repayment<br>Date(s)<br>----- | Optional<br>Repayment<br>Price(s)<br>----- |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 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): \*

Treasury Rate

Interest Reset Period: Quarterly

LIBOR Reuters

Interest Payment Date(s): \*\*

LIBOR Telerate

Prime Rate

CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 2.38%

Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

Index Maturity: Three Months

Spread (plus or minus): +0.55%

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- \* On the 19th of each January, April, July and October prior to Maturity.
- \*\* On the 19th of each January, April, July and October, including the maturity date.

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