

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3

September 07, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 72

DATED: September 4, 2001

(To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001,
and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001)

Rule 424(b)(3)

File No. 333-52902

\$9,015,893,162

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$150,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [] Book Entry Notes [x]

Original Issue Date: 9/7/2001 Fixed Rate Notes [x] Certificated Notes []

Maturity Date: 10/7/2002 CUSIP#: 073928VF7

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 | ----- N/A |

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate: 3.75%

Interest Payment Dates: *

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis:

[] Commercial Paper Rate

[] Federal Funds Effective Rate

[] Federal Funds Open Rate

[] Treasury Rate

[] LIBOR Reuters

[] LIBOR Telerate

[] Prime Rate

[] CMT Rate

Maximum Interest Rate:

Minimum Interest Rate:

Interest Reset Date(s):

Interest Reset Period:

Interest Payment Date(s):

Initial Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Period:

Index Maturity:

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Spread (plus or minus):

*On April 7, 2002 and at Maturity.

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