

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
Form 424B3  
May 18, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 45  
DATED: May 15, 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: \$15,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [ ] Book Entry Notes [x]  
Original Issue Date: 5/18/2001 Fixed Rate Notes [x] Certificated Notes [ ]  
Maturity Date: 5/17/2002 CUSIP#: 073928UC5  
Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]  
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: 4.350%

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 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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\* On November 17, 2001 and at Maturity.

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