

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
Form 424B3  
September 17, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 73  
DATED: September 5, 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: \$25,000,000    Floating Rate Notes     Book Entry Notes   
Original Issue Date: 9/24/2001    Fixed Rate Notes     Certificated Notes   
Maturity Date: 9/24/2021    CUSIP#: 073928VG5  
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                                        |

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:  
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Interest Rate: 7.00%

Interest Payment Dates: \*\*

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:  
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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):

- \* Commencing September 24, 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 March 24, 2002 and on the 24th of each September and March 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.