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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3

June 24, 2003

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 17
DATED: June 19, 2003
(To Prospectus dated April 24, 2003, and Prospectus Supplement dated April 24, 2003)

Rule 424(b)(3) File No. 333-104455

\$10,227,293,162

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Medium-Term Notes, Series B

Principal Amount: \$100,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x]

Original Issue Date: 6/24/2003 Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes []

Maturity Date: 6/24/2005 CUSIP#: 073928A37

Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]

Yes [] Final Maturity Date:

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

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate:

[] CMT 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

[x] Federal Funds Open Rate

Interest Reset Date(s): Daily

[] Treasury Rate

Interest Reset Period: Daily

[] LIBOR Reuters

Interest Payment Date(s): *

[] LIBOR Telerate

[] Prime Rate

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Initial Interest Rate: 1.4375% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (plus or minus): + 0.25%

* On the 24th of each September, December, March and June, including the maturity date.

At February 28, 2003:

- o the Company had outstanding (on an unconsolidated basis) approximately \$37.4 billion of debt and other obligations, including approximately \$34.3 billion of unsecured senior debt and \$2.6 billion of unsecured inter-company debt; and
- o subsidiaries of the Company had outstanding (after elimination of inter-company items) approximately \$145.5 billion of debt and other obligations (including \$47.9 billion related to securities sold under repurchase agreements, \$52.9 billion related to payables to customers, \$26.4 billion related to financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, and \$18.3 billion of other liabilities, including \$13.6 billion of debt).

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