

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3

January 19, 2005

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 48

DATED: January 14, 2005

(To Prospectus dated November 17, 2003,  
and Prospectus Supplement dated November 17, 2003)

Rule 424(b)(3)  
File No. 333-109793

\$10,668,950,162

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
Medium-Term Notes, Series B

Principal Amount: \$50,000,000 Floating Rate Notes  Book Entry Notes

Original Issue Date: 1/20/2005 Fixed Rate Notes  Certificated Notes

Maturity Date: 1/15/2008 CUSIP#: 073928J61

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:  
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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: Monthly

LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): \*\*

LIBOR Telerate

Prime Rate

CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 2.60% Interest Payment Period: Monthly

Index Maturity: One Month

Spread (plus or minus): +0.10%

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\* On the 15th of each month prior to Maturity.

\*\* On the 15th of each month, including the maturity date.

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