

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
 Form 3  
 February 21, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
 Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *			2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Bear Stearns Companies Inc. 2008 Trust			(Month/Day/Year) 02/14/2008	BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC [BSC]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
C/O BEAR, STEARNS & CO. INC.,Â 383 MADISON AVENUE			(Check all applicable)		
(Street)			___ Director		___X___ 10% Owner
NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10179			___ Officer		___ Other
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(give title below)		(specify below)
			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)		
			___X___ Form filed by One Reporting Person		
			___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	27,316,339	D	Â

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security	4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4)	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)
		Title			

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Bear Stearns Companies Inc. 2008 Trust C/O BEAR, STEARNS & CO. INC. 383 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10179	^	^ X	^	^

## Signatures

By: Wilmington Trust Company, as Trustee  
Date: 02/15/2008

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.