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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3

April 09, 2002

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 18

DATED: April 9, 2002

Rule 424(b)(3)

File No. 333-76894

(To Prospectus dated January 25, 2002,

and Prospectus Supplement dated January 25, 2002)

\$10,006,693,162
THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$25,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x]

Original Issue Date: 4/9/2002 Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes []

Maturity Date: 4/9/2003 CUSIP#: 073928WY5

Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]

Yes [] Final Maturity Date:

Maximum Interest Rate: N/A

		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:

Interest Payment Dates:

Interest Rate Basis:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

[] 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): **

[x] LIBOR Telerate

[] Prime Rate

[] CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 1.86% Interest Payment Period: Monthly

Index Maturity: One Month

Spread (plus or minus): N/A

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- * On the 9th of each month prior to Maturity.
- ** On the 9th of each month and at Maturity.

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