

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
 Form 424B3  
 March 07, 2006

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 21  
 DATED: March 1, 2006

Rule 424(b)(3)  
 File No. 333-121744

(To Prospectus dated February 2, 2005,  
 and Prospectus Supplement dated February 2, 2005)

\$12,410,781,162  
 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
 Medium-Term Notes, Series B

Principal Amount: \$385,000,000 Floating Rate Notes  Book Entry Notes   
 Original Issue Date: 03/06/2006 Fixed Rate Notes  Certificated Notes   
 Maturity Date: 03/06/2008 CUSIP#: 073928N82  
 Option to Extend Maturity: No   
 Yes  Final Maturity Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:  
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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): Daily

Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Daily

LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): \*

LIBOR Telerate

Prime Rate

CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 4.50% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (plus or minus): +0.14%

\* Commencing June 6, 2006 and on the 6th of each September, December, March and June thereafter, up to and including the maturity date.

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