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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 424B3

January 16, 2004

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 6

DATED: January 9, 2004

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

Original Issue Date: 1/20/2004 Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes []

Maturity Date: 1/20/2005 CUSIP#: 073928C92

Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]

Yes [] Final Maturity Date:

Redeemable On Price(s) Date(s) Price(s)

N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A Optional Repayment Repayment

Optional Repayment Repayment Repayment

Repayment 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:

Index Maturity: N/A

[] CMT Rate

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Spread (plus or minus): -2.94%

- + Prime Rate as reported on Telerate Page 5 under the heading "Bank Rates/Prime."
- * On the 20th of April, July, October and at Maturity.

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