

OMB APPROVAL

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| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
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Estimated average burden

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| hours per response: | 0.5 |
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*</p> <p><u>J P MORGAN CHASE & CO</u></p> | <p>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p><u>BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC</u> [BSC]</p> | <p>5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)</p> <p>Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</p> <p>Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)</p> |
| <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p><u>270 PARK AVENUE</u></p> | <p>3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)</p> <p><u>04/11/2008</u></p> | |
| <p>(Street)</p> <p><u>NEW YORK NY 10017</u></p> | <p>4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)</p> | <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p> |
| <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p> | | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|---------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 04/11/2008 | | P | | 1,450,000 | A | \$10.14 | 116,949,514 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/14/2008 | | P | | 1,848,600 | A | \$9.98 | 118,798,114 ⁽¹⁾ | D | |

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes the indirect beneficial ownership of 300 shares owned by J. P. Morgan Ventures Corporation, 415,768 shares owned by J. P. Morgan Whitefriars Inc. and 1,652 shares owned by J. P. Morgan Securities Inc., all wholly owned subsidiaries of the Reporting Person.

/s/ Anthony J. Horan

04/15/2008

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date _____

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.