

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

Form 10-Q

October 10, 2007

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

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended August 31, 2007

or

Transition Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-8989

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 13-3286161
(State or Other Jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
Incorporation or Organization)

383 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10179
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(212) 272-2000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer" and "large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer Non-Accelerated Filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of October 8, 2007, the latest practicable date, there were 115,461,065 shares of Common Stock, \$1 par value, outstanding.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

Available Information

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

PART I.	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	3
Item 1.	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)	
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the three months and nine months ended August 31, 2007 and August 31, 2006	4
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition as of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006	5
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and August 31, 2006	6
	Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	7
	REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM	33
Item 2.	MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS	
	Introduction	34
	Certain Factors Affecting Results of Operations	34
	Forward-Looking Statements	35
	Executive Overview	35
	Results of Operations	37
	Liquidity and Capital Resources	44
	Off-Balance-Sheet Arrangements	54
	Derivative Financial Instruments	54
	Critical Accounting Policies	55
	Accounting and Reporting Developments	58
	Effects of Inflation	59
Item 3.	QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK	60
Item 4.	CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES	64
PART II.	OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1.	LEGAL PROCEEDINGS	65
Item 1A.	RISK FACTORS	67
Item 2.	UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS	68
Item 6	EXHIBITS	69
Signature		70

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and its subsidiaries ("Company") files current, annual and quarterly reports, proxy statements and other information required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). You may read and copy any document the Company files at the SEC's public reference room located at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. The Company's SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC's internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy statements and other information can also be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The Company's public internet site is <http://www.bearstearns.com>. The Company makes available free of charge through its internet site, via a link to the SEC's internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>, its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, proxy statements and Forms 3, 4 and 5 filed on behalf of directors and executive officers and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after it electronically files such material with, or furnishes it to, the SEC.

In addition, the Company currently makes available on <http://www.bearstearns.com> its most recent annual report on Form 10-K, its quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the current fiscal year and its most recent proxy statement, although in some cases these documents are not available on that site as soon as they are available on the SEC's internet site. Also posted on the Company's website, and available in print upon request of any stockholder to the Investor Relations Department, are charters for the Company's Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Corporate Governance Committee, Nominating Committee and Qualified Legal Compliance Committee. Copies of the Corporate Governance Guidelines and the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics governing our directors, officers and employees are also posted on the Company's website within the "Corporate Governance" section under the heading "About Bear Stearns." You will need to have the Adobe Acrobat Reader software on your computer to view these documents, which are in the .PDF format.

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of
Income

	(Unaudited)		
	Three Months Ended		
(in thousands, except share and per share data)	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	August 2007

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

REVENUES

Commissions	\$	354,330	\$	280,033	\$	9
Principal transactions		300,675		1,093,997		2,8
Investment banking		277,046		283,507		1,0
Interest and dividends		3,368,564		2,322,992		8,8
Asset management and other income		39,226		155,158		4
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>						
Total revenues		4,339,841		4,135,687		14,1
Interest expense		3,009,092		2,006,552		7,7
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>						
Revenues, net of interest expense		1,330,749		2,129,135		6,3

NON-INTEREST EXPENSES

Employee compensation and benefits		663,506		1,024,748		3,0
Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees		79,515		58,621		1
Communications and technology		150,833		126,938		4
Occupancy		69,456		52,976		1
Advertising and market development		49,408		38,243		1
Professional fees		91,018		78,110		2
Impairment of goodwill and specialist rights		-		-		2
Other expenses		52,187		82,261		2
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>						
Total non-interest expenses		1,155,923		1,461,897		4,7

Income before provision for income taxes		174,826		667,238		1,5
Provision for income taxes		3,528		229,682		4

Net income	\$	171,298	\$	437,556	\$	1,0
Preferred stock dividends		5,201		5,316		

Net income applicable to common shares	\$	166,097	\$	432,240	\$	1,0
--	----	---------	----	---------	----	-----

Basic earnings per share	\$	1.30	\$	3.34	\$	
Diluted earnings per share	\$	1.16	\$	3.02	\$	

Weighted average common shares outstanding:

Basic		128,949,234		132,086,016		131,2
Diluted		145,105,029		148,899,406		147,9

Cash dividends declared per common share	\$	0.32	\$	0.28	\$	
--	----	------	----	------	----	--

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of
Financial Condition

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except share data)	August 31, 2007
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 18,142,649
Cash and securities deposited with clearing organizations or segregated in compliance with federal regulations	13,459,786
Securities received as collateral	18,300,579
Collateralized agreements:	
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	32,144,172
Securities borrowed	80,038,957
Receivables:	
Customers	34,369,392
Brokers, dealers and others	7,895,074
Interest and dividends	1,055,863
Financial instruments owned, at fair value	126,869,828
Financial instruments owned and pledged as collateral, at fair value	15,004,024
Total financial instruments owned, at fair value	141,873,852
Assets of variable interest entities and mortgage loan special purpose entities	41,045,163
Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$1,104,119 and \$1,152,279 as of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively	585,633
Other assets	8,179,867
Total Assets	\$ 397,090,987
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Unsecured short-term borrowings	\$ 13,013,016
Obligation to return securities received as collateral	18,300,579
Collateralized financings:	
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	103,130,600
Securities loaned	5,975,846
Other secured borrowings	11,758,096
Payables:	
Customers	71,030,187
Brokers, dealers and others	2,775,529
Interest and dividends	1,279,525
Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value	47,605,670
Liabilities of variable interest entities and mortgage loan special purpose entities	38,642,572
Accrued employee compensation and benefits	1,781,238
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	3,646,682
Long-term borrowings	65,150,989

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Total Liabilities	\$ 384,090,529
<hr/>	
Commitments and contingencies (Note 11)	
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Preferred stock	351,621
Common stock, \$1.00 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized and 184,805,847 shares issued as of both August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006	184,806
Paid-in capital	4,966,272
Retained earnings	10,338,196
Employee stock compensation plans	2,498,963
Treasury stock, at cost:	
Common stock: 69,441,720 and 67,396,876 shares as of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively	(5,339,400)
Total Stockholders' Equity	13,000,458
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 397,090,987

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Note: Certain prior period items have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

5

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of
Cash Flows

	(Unaudited)	
	Nine Months End	
(in thousands)	August 31,	A
	2007	
<hr/>		
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	\$ 1,086,763	\$
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash used in operating activities:		
Non-cash items included in net income:		
Impairment of goodwill and specialist rights	227,457	
Depreciation and amortization	135,067	
Deferred income taxes	(6,015)	
Employee stock compensation plans	14,224	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Cash and securities deposited with clearing organizations or segregated in compliance with federal regulations	(4,656,102)	
Securities borrowed, net of securities loaned	(4,991,080)	
Receivables from customers	(4,887,593)	

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Receivables from brokers, dealers and others	(1,775,726)	
Financial instruments owned, at fair value	(18,310,462)	
Other assets	(3,262,447)	
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase, net of securities purchased under agreements to resell	40,075,032	
Payables to customers	(1,958,474)	
Payables to brokers, dealers and others	(621,306)	
Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value	5,244,518	
Accrued employee compensation and benefits	(284,208)	
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	1,721,505	
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	7,751,153	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchases of property, equipment and leasehold improvements	(229,326)	
Cash used in investing activities	(229,326)	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Payments for/proceeds from unsecured short-term borrowings, net	(12,774,438)	
Proceeds from other secured borrowings, net	8,482,836	
Proceeds from issuance of long-term borrowings	20,241,883	
Payments for retirement/repurchase of long-term borrowings	(8,979,750)	
Proceeds from issuances of derivatives with a financing element, net	117,463	
Issuance of common stock	136,022	
Cash retained resulting from tax deductibility under share-based payment arrangements	236,343	
Redemption of preferred stock	(7,528)	
Treasury stock purchases - common stock	(1,296,971)	
Cash dividends paid	(130,222)	
Cash provided by financing activities	6,025,638	
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	13,547,465	
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	4,595,184	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 18,142,649	\$

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION:

Cash payments for interest were \$8.25 billion and \$5.61 billion during the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. Cash payments for income taxes, net of refunds, were \$522.7 million and \$592.4 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. Cash payments for income taxes, net of refunds, would have been \$759.0 million and \$913.8 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, if increases in the value of equity instruments issued under share-based payment arrangements had not been deductible in determining taxable income.

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Note: Certain prior period items have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of Business

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. (the "Company") is a holding company that, through its broker-dealer and international bank subsidiaries, principally Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. ("Bear Stearns"), Bear, Stearns Securities Corp. ("BSSC"), Bear, Stearns International Limited ("BSIL") and Bear Stearns Bank plc ("BSB"), is primarily engaged in business as a securities broker-dealer operating in three principal segments: Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management. Capital Markets is comprised of the institutional equities, fixed income and investment banking areas. Global Clearing Services provides clearance-related services for prime brokerage clients and clearance on a fully disclosed basis for introducing broker-dealers. Wealth Management is comprised of the private client services ("PCS") and asset management areas. See Note 13, "Segment Data," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a complete description of the Company's principal segments. The Company also conducts significant activities through other wholly owned subsidiaries, including: Bear Stearns Global Lending Limited; Custodial Trust Company; Bear Stearns Financial Products Inc.; Bear Stearns Capital Markets Inc.; Bear Stearns Credit Products Inc.; Bear Stearns Forex Inc. ("BS Forex"); EMC Mortgage Corporation; Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc.; Bear Energy L.P.; and Bear Hunter Holdings LLC. The Company participates, through Bear Hunter Holdings LLC, in specialist activities on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") and International Securities Exchange ("ISE").

Basis of Presentation

The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company, its wholly owned subsidiaries and other entities in which the Company has a controlling interest. Additionally, in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Interpretation ("FIN") No. 46 (R), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities (revised December 2003)--an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin ("ARB") No. 51 ("FIN No. 46 (R))", the Company also consolidates any variable interest entities ("VIEs") for which it is the primary beneficiary. The assets and related liabilities of such variable interest entities have been shown in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition in the captions "Assets of variable interest entities and mortgage loan special purpose entities" and "Liabilities of variable interest entities and mortgage loan special purpose entities." See Note 5, "Variable Interest Entities and Mortgage Loan Special Purpose Entities," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

As of December 1, 2006, the Company has fully adopted Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue No. 04-5 "Determining Whether a General Partner, or the General Partners as a Group, Controls a Limited Partnership or Similar Entity When the Limited Partners Have Certain Rights." The EITF consensus requires a general partner in a limited partnership to consolidate the limited partnership unless the presumption of control is overcome. The general partner may overcome this presumption of control and not consolidate the entity if the limited partners have: (a) the substantive ability to dissolve or liquidate the limited partnership or otherwise remove the general partner without having to show cause; or (b)

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

substantive participating rights in managing the partnership.

When the Company does not have a controlling interest in an entity, but exerts significant influence over the entity's operating and financial decisions (generally defined as owning a voting or economic interest of 20% to 50%), the Company applies the equity method of accounting.

The Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition as of August 31, 2007, the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006 and the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006 are unaudited. The Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition at November 30, 2006 and related information were derived from the audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") with respect to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and reflect all adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are normal and recurring, and which are necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented. In accordance with such rules and regulations, certain disclosures that are normally included in annual financial statements have been omitted. These Condensed

7

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

Consolidated Financial Statements should be read together with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2006, as filed by the Company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act") (the "Form 10-K").

The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These principles require management to make certain estimates and assumptions, including those regarding inventory valuations, stock-based compensation, certain accrued liabilities, the potential outcome of litigation and tax matters, and mortgage servicing rights, which may affect the amounts reported in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates. The nature of the Company's business is such that the results of any interim period may not be indicative of the results to be expected for an entire fiscal year. All material intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

Revenue Recognition Policies

Principal Transactions

Financial instruments owned and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, including contractual commitments arising pursuant to futures, forward and option contracts, interest rate swaps and other derivative contracts, are recorded at fair value with the resulting net unrealized gains and losses reflected in "Principal transactions" revenues in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Investment Banking and Advisory Services

Underwriting revenues and fees for mergers and acquisitions advisory services are accrued when services for the transactions are substantially completed. Transaction expenses are deferred until the related revenue is recognized. Investment banking and advisory services revenues are presented net of transaction-related expenses.

Mortgage Servicing Fees and Advances

Contractual servicing fees, late fees and other ancillary servicing fees earned for servicing mortgage loans are reflected in "Investment banking" revenues in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Contractual servicing fees are recognized when earned based on the terms of the servicing agreement. All other fees are recognized when received. In the normal course of its business, the Company makes principal, interest and other servicing advances to external investors on mortgage loans serviced for these investors. Such advances are generally recoverable from the mortgagors, related securitization trusts or from the proceeds received from the sales of the underlying properties. A charge to earnings is recognized to the extent that servicing advances are estimated to be uncollectible under the provisions of the servicing contracts.

Commissions

Commission revenues primarily include fees from executing and clearing client transactions on stock, options and futures markets worldwide. These fees are recognized on a trade date basis. The Company records its share of the commission under certain commission sharing arrangements where the Company is acting as agent for another broker, in accordance with EITF Statement No. 99-19, "Reporting Revenue Gross as a Principal versus Net as an Agent."

Asset Management and Other Income

The Company receives advisory fees for investment management. In addition, the Company receives performance incentive fees for managing certain funds. Advisory fees are recognized over the period of advisory service. Unearned advisory fees are treated as deferred revenues and are included in "Other liabilities" in the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. Performance incentive fees are accrued throughout the year based on a fund's performance to date against specified performance targets.

8

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

Financial Instruments

On December 1, 2006, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements." SFAS No. 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements. Additionally, SFAS No. 157 disallows the use of block discounts on positions traded in an active market as well as nullifies certain guidance in EITF No. 02-3 regarding the recognition of inception gains on certain derivative transactions. See Note 2, "Financial Instruments" of Notes to Condensed

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Consolidated Financial Statements for a complete discussion on SFAS No. 157.

Proprietary securities, futures and other derivative transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Financial instruments owned and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, including contractual commitments arising pursuant to futures, forward and option contracts, interest rate swaps and other derivative contracts, are recorded at fair value.

Fair value is generally based on quoted market prices. If quoted market prices are not available, fair value is determined based on other relevant factors, including dealer price quotations, price activity for equivalent instruments and valuation pricing models. Valuation pricing models consider time value, yield curve and volatility factors, prepayment speeds, default rates, loss severity, current market and contractual prices for the underlying financial instruments, as well as other measurements.

Equity interests and securities acquired as a result of private equity and merchant banking activities are reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements at fair value, which is often represented as initial cost until significant transactions or developments indicate that a change in the carrying value of the securities is appropriate. This represents the Company's best estimate of exit price as defined by SFAS No. 157. Generally, the carrying values of these securities will be increased based on company performance and in those instances where market values are readily ascertainable by reference to substantial transactions occurring in the marketplace or quoted market prices. Reductions to the carrying value of these securities are made when the Company's estimate of net realizable value has declined below the carrying value.

Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

The Company follows SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended by SFAS No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," and SFAS No. 149, "Amendment of Statement 133 on Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," which establishes accounting and reporting standards for stand-alone derivative instruments, derivatives embedded within other contracts or securities, and hedging activities. Accordingly, all derivatives, whether stand-alone or embedded within other contracts or securities (except in narrowly defined circumstances), are carried in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at fair value, with changes in fair value recorded in "Principal transactions" revenues. Designated hedged items in fair value hedging relationships are marked for the risk being hedged, with such changes also recorded in "Principal transactions" revenues.

On December 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS No. 155, "Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments an amendment of FASB Statements No. 133 and 140." SFAS No. 155 permits companies to elect on an instrument-by-instrument basis, to apply a fair value measurement to hybrid financial instruments that contain an embedded derivative that would otherwise require bifurcation under SFAS No. 133. As permitted, on December 1, 2006, the Company elected to apply a fair value measurement to all existing hybrid financial instruments that met the SFAS No. 155 definition. The Company also elected the fair value measurement for all qualifying hybrid financial instruments issued on or after December 1, 2006. The Company's reason for electing to carry these instruments on a fair value basis was to enable the Company to more efficiently hedge these instruments and to simplify the accounting process. The hybrid instruments are reported as a component of "Other liabilities" in the Fair Value

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Measurements disclosure.

The Company follows FIN No. 39, "Offsetting Amounts Related to Certain Contracts," and offsets assets and liabilities in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition provided that the legal right of offset exists under a master netting agreement. This includes the offsetting of payables or receivables relating to the fair

9

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

value of cash collateral received or paid associated with its derivative inventory, on a counterparty by counterparty basis.

Customer Transactions

Customer securities transactions are recorded on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition on a settlement date basis, which is generally three business days after trade date, while the related commission revenues and expenses are recorded on a trade date basis. Receivables from and payables to customers include amounts related to both cash and margin transactions. Securities owned by customers, including those that collateralize margin or other similar transactions, are generally not reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Mortgage Servicing Assets

Mortgage servicing rights ("MSRs") are included in "Other assets" on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. On December 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS No. 156, "Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets--an amendment of FASB Statement No. 140," and elected to measure servicing assets at fair value. The fair value of MSRs is determined by using market-based models that discount anticipated future net cash flows considering loan prepayment predictions, interest rates, default rates, servicing costs, current market data and other economic factors.

Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities

The Company follows SFAS No. 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities--a replacement of FASB Statement No. 125," to account for securitizations and other transfers of financial assets and collateral. SFAS No. 140 establishes accounting and reporting standards with a financial-components approach that focuses on control. Under this approach, financial assets or liabilities are recognized when control is established and derecognized when control has been surrendered or the liability has been extinguished. Control is deemed to be relinquished only when all of the following conditions have been met: (1) the assets have been isolated from the transferor, even in bankruptcy or other receivership; (2) the transferee is a Qualifying Special Purpose Entity ("QSPE") or has the right to pledge or exchange the assets received; and (3) the transferor has not maintained effective control over the transferred assets. The Company derecognizes financial assets transferred in securitizations provided that such transfer meets all of these criteria.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Mortgage securitization transactions, net of certain direct costs, are recorded in "Principal transactions" revenues in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income.

Collateralized Securities Transactions

Transactions involving purchases of securities under agreements to resell ("reverse repurchase agreements") or sales of securities under agreements to repurchase ("repurchase agreements") are treated as collateralized financing transactions and are recorded at their contracted resale or repurchase amounts plus accrued interest. Resulting interest income and expense is generally included in "Principal transactions" revenues in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Reverse repurchase agreements and repurchase agreements are presented in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition on a net-by-counterparty basis, where permitted by generally accepted accounting principles. It is the Company's general policy to take possession of securities or loans with a market value in excess of the principal amount loaned plus the accrued interest thereon, in order to collateralize reverse repurchase agreements. Similarly, the Company is generally required to provide securities or loans to counterparties to collateralize repurchase agreements. The Company's agreements with counterparties generally contain contractual provisions allowing for additional collateral to be obtained, or excess collateral returned. It is the Company's policy to value collateral and to obtain additional collateral, or to retrieve excess collateral from counterparties, when deemed appropriate.

Securities borrowed and securities loaned are recorded based upon the amount of cash collateral advanced or received. Securities borrowed transactions facilitate the settlement process and require the Company to deposit cash, letters of credit or other collateral with the lender. With respect to securities loaned, the Company receives collateral in the form of cash or other collateral. The amount of collateral required to be deposited for securities borrowed, or

10

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

received for securities loaned, is an amount generally in excess of the market value of the applicable securities borrowed or loaned. The Company monitors the market value of securities borrowed and loaned, with excess collateral retrieved or additional collateral obtained, when deemed appropriate.

Fixed Assets

Depreciation of property and equipment is provided by the Company on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset. Amortization of leasehold improvements is provided on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the estimated useful life of the asset or the remaining life of the lease.

Goodwill and Identifiable Intangible Assets

The Company accounts for goodwill and identifiable intangible assets under the provisions of SFAS No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." In accordance with this guidance, the Company does not amortize goodwill, but amortizes identifiable intangible assets over their useful lives. Goodwill

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

is tested at least annually for impairment and identifiable intangible assets are tested for potential impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances suggest that the carrying value of an asset or asset group may not be fully recoverable in accordance with SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets."

Earnings Per Share

Earnings per share ("EPS") is computed in accordance with SFAS No. 128, "Earnings Per Share." Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income applicable to common shares, adjusted for costs related to vested shares under the Capital Accumulation Plan for Senior Managing Directors, as amended ("CAP Plan"), as well as the effect of the redemption of preferred stock, by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Common shares outstanding includes vested units issued under certain stock compensation plans, which will be distributed as shares of common stock. Diluted EPS includes the determinants of basic EPS and, in addition, gives effect to dilutive potential common shares related to stock compensation plans.

Stock-Based Compensation

The Company follows SFAS No. 123 (R), "Share-Based Payment," to account for its stock-based compensation plans. SFAS No. 123 (R) is a revision of SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," and supersedes Accounting Principles Board ("APB") Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and amends SFAS No. 95, "Statement of Cash Flows." SFAS No. 123 (R) eliminated the ability to account for share-based compensation transactions using APB No. 25, and requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, to be recognized in the financial statements using a fair value-based method. The Company adopted SFAS No. 123 (R) effective December 1, 2005, using the modified prospective method. The Company previously elected to adopt fair value accounting for stock-based compensation consistent with SFAS No. 123, using the prospective method with guidance provided by SFAS No. 148, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosures," effective December 1, 2002. As a result, commencing with options granted after November 30, 2002, the Company expenses the fair value of stock options issued to employees over the related vesting period.

Cash Equivalents

The Company has defined cash equivalents as liquid investments not held for sale in the ordinary course of business with original maturities of three months or less that are not part of the Company's trading inventory.

Income Taxes

The Company and certain of its subsidiaries file a U.S. consolidated federal income tax return. The Company accounts for income taxes under the provisions of SFAS No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." Under SFAS No. 109, deferred income taxes are based on the net tax effects of temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities. In addition, deferred income taxes are determined by the enacted tax rates and laws expected to be in effect when the related temporary differences are expected to be reversed.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

(UNAUDITED)

The Company is under continuous examination by various tax authorities in jurisdictions in which the Company has significant business operations. The Company regularly evaluates the likelihood of additional assessments in each of the tax jurisdictions resulting from these examinations. Tax reserves have been established, which the Company believes to be adequate in relation to the probability for additional assessments. Once established, reserves are adjusted as information becomes available or when an event requiring a change to the reserve occurs.

Translation of Foreign Currencies

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at period end rates of exchange, while income statement items are translated at daily average rates of exchange during the fiscal period. Comprehensive income was materially the same as net income for the Company for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006. Gains or losses resulting from foreign currency transactions are included in net income.

Accounting and Reporting Developments

In July 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes--an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" ("FIN No. 48"). FIN No. 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with SFAS No. 109. FIN No. 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN No. 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. The Company will adopt the provisions of FIN No. 48 beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of FIN No. 48 may have on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." SFAS No. 159 permits entities to elect to measure financial assets and liabilities (except for those that are specifically scoped out of the Statement) at fair value. The election to measure a financial asset or liability at fair value can be made on an instrument-by-instrument basis and is irrevocable. The difference between the carrying value and the fair value at the election date is recorded as a transition adjustment to opening retained earnings. Subsequent changes in fair value are recognized in earnings. The Company will adopt SFAS No. 159 effective December 1, 2007. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS No. 159 to have a material impact on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In April 2007, the FASB issued a Staff Position ("FSP") FIN No. 39-1, "Amendment of FASB Interpretation No. 39." FSP FIN No. 39-1 defines "right of setoff" and specifies what conditions must be met for a derivative contract to qualify for this right of setoff. It also addresses the applicability of a right of setoff to derivative instruments and clarifies the circumstances in which it is appropriate to offset amounts recognized for those instruments in the statement of financial position. In addition, this FSP permits offsetting of fair value amounts recognized for multiple derivative instruments executed with the same counterparty under a master netting arrangement and fair value amounts recognized for the right to reclaim cash collateral (a receivable) or the obligation to return cash collateral (a payable) arising from the same master netting arrangement as the derivative instruments. The provisions of this FSP are consistent with

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

the Company's current accounting practice. This interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, with early application permitted. The adoption of FSP FIN No. 39-1 will not have a material impact on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In May 2007, the FASB issued FSP FIN No. 46(R)-7, "Application of FASB Interpretation No. 46(R) to Investment Companies." FSP FIN No. 46(R)-7 amends the scope of the exception to FIN No. 46(R) to state that investments accounted for at fair value in accordance with the specialized accounting guidance in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") Audit and Accounting Guide, Investment Companies, are not subject to consolidation under FIN No. 46(R). This interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2007. Certain of the Company's consolidated subsidiaries of the Company currently apply the accounting guidance in the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide, Investment Companies. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the adoption of this interpretation will have on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

12

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

In June 2007, the Accounting Standards Executive Committee of the AICPA issued Statement of Position ("SOP") 07-1, "Clarification of the Scope of the Audit and Accounting Guide Investment Companies and Accounting by Parent Companies and Equity Method Investors for Investments in Investment Companies." This SOP provides guidance for determining whether an entity is within the scope of the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide Investment Companies (the "Guide"). Additionally, it provides guidance as to whether a parent company or an equity method investor can apply the specialized industry accounting principles of the Guide (referred to as investment company accounting). This SOP is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of SOP 07-1 may have on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial instruments owned and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, consisting of the Company's proprietary trading inventories, at fair value, were as follows:

	August 31, 2007
(in thousands)	

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS OWNED, AT FAIR VALUE:	
U.S. government and agency	\$ 3,756,119
Other sovereign governments	740,162
Corporate equity and convertible debt	33,492,558
Corporate debt and other	33,260,396
Mortgages, mortgage- and asset-backed	55,936,503
Derivative financial instruments	14,688,114

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

\$ 141,873,852

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS SOLD, BUT NOT YET PURCHASED, AT FAIR VALUE:	
U.S. government and agency	\$ 6,010,008
Other sovereign governments	1,511,258
Corporate equity and convertible debt	20,170,630
Corporate debt and other	5,490,411
Mortgages, mortgage- and asset-backed	216,509
Derivative financial instruments	14,206,854
	\$ 47,605,670

Note: Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

As of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, all financial instruments owned that were pledged to counterparties where the counterparty has the right, by contract or custom, to rehypothecate those securities are classified as "Financial instruments owned and pledged as collateral, at fair value" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value represent obligations of the Company to purchase the specified financial instrument at the then current market price. Accordingly, these transactions result in off-balance-sheet risk as the Company's ultimate obligation to repurchase such securities may exceed the amount recognized in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Concentration Risk

The Company is subject to concentration risk by holding large positions or committing to hold large positions in certain types of securities, securities of a single issuer (including governments), issuers located in a particular country or geographic area, or issuers engaged in a particular industry. Positions taken and commitments made by the Company, including underwritings, often involve substantial amounts and significant exposure to individual issuers and businesses, including non-investment-grade issuers. At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the Company's most significant concentrations were related to U.S. government and agency inventory positions, including those of the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. In

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
 NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 (UNAUDITED)

addition, a substantial portion of the collateral held by the Company for reverse repurchase agreements consists of securities issued by the U.S. government and agencies.

Fair Value Measurements

On December 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements." SFAS No. 157 applies to all financial instruments that are

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

being measured and reported on a fair value basis. This includes those items currently reported in "Financial instruments owned, at fair value" and "Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value" on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition as well as financial instruments reported in "Other assets" and "Other liabilities" that are reported at fair value.

As defined in SFAS No. 157, fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In determining fair value, the Company uses various methods including market, income and cost approaches. Based on these approaches, the Company often utilizes certain assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk and or the risks inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique. These inputs can be readily observable, market corroborated, or generally unobservable firm inputs. The Company utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. Based on the observability of the inputs used in the valuation techniques the Company is required to provide the following information according to the fair value hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy ranks the quality and reliability of the information used to determine fair values. Financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value will be classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

Level 1: Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Observable market based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data.

Level 1 primarily consists of financial instruments whose value is based on quoted market prices such as exchange-traded derivatives and listed equities. Additionally, this category also includes those financial instruments that are typically valued using alternative approaches but for which the Company typically receives independent external valuation information including U.S. Treasuries, other U.S. Government and agency securities, as well as other sovereign debt.

Level 2 includes those financial instruments that are valued using models or other valuation methodologies. These models are primarily industry-standard models that consider various assumptions, including time value, yield curve, volatility factors, prepayment speeds, default rates, loss severity, current market and contractual prices for the underlying financial instruments, as well as other relevant economic measures. Substantially all of these assumptions are observable in the marketplace, can be derived from observable data or are supported by observable levels at which transactions are executed in the marketplace. Financial instruments in this category include certain corporate equities, corporate debt, certain mortgage-backed securities and non-exchange-traded derivatives such as interest rate swaps.

Level 3 is comprised of financial instruments whose fair value is estimated based on internally developed models or methodologies utilizing significant inputs that are generally less readily observable from objective sources. Included in this category are distressed debt, non-performing mortgage-related assets, certain mortgage-backed securities and residual interests, Chapter 13 and other credit card receivables from individuals, and complex and exotic derivative structures including long-dated equity derivatives.

In determining the appropriate levels, the Company performs a detailed

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

analysis of the assets and liabilities that are subject to SFAS No. 157. At each reporting period, all assets and liabilities for which the fair value measurement is based on significant unobservable inputs are classified as Level 3.

14

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

Fair Value Measurements on a Recurring Basis as of August 31, 2007

(in thousands)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Impact of Netting
Financial Instruments Owned, at fair value				
Non-Derivative Trading Inventory	\$26,828,488	\$ 85,731,730	\$14,625,520	\$
Derivative Trading Inventory	2,239,941	101,333,705	1,976,574	(90,862,1
Total Financial Instruments				
Owned, at fair value	29,068,429	187,065,435	16,602,094	(90,862,1
Other Assets	727,734	945,233	3,652,000	
Total Assets at fair value	\$29,796,163	\$188,010,668	\$20,254,094	\$ (90,862,1

(in thousands)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Impact of Netting
Financial Instruments Sold But Not Yet Purchased, at fair value				
Non-Derivative Trading Inventory	\$24,962,782	\$ 8,428,347	\$ 7,687	\$
Derivative Trading Inventory	2,080,661	98,532,199	3,110,447	(89,516,4
Total Financial Instruments Sold But Not Yet Purchased, at fair value	27,043,443	106,960,546	3,118,134	(89,516,4
Other Liabilities	90,288	6,672,387	2,142,037	
Total Liabilities at fair value	\$27,133,731	\$113,632,933	\$ 5,260,171	\$ (89,516,4

As stated above SFAS No. 157 applies to all financial assets and liabilities that are reported on a fair value basis. These valuations are adjusted for various factors including credit risk. For applicable financial assets carried at fair value, the credit standing of the counterparties is analyzed and factored into the fair value measurement of those assets. SFAS No. 157 states that the fair value measurement of a liability must reflect the nonperformance risk of the entity. Therefore, the impact of credit standing as well as any potential credit enhancements (e.g. collateral) has been factored into the fair value measurement of both financial assets and liabilities.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The non-derivative trading inventory category includes securities such as U.S. Government and agency, other sovereign governments, corporate equities, convertible debt, corporate debt, mortgages, mortgage- and asset-backed, as well as certain other items. They are reported in "Financial instruments owned, at fair value" and "Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value" on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The derivatives trading inventory balances in the table above are reported on a gross basis by level with a netting adjustment presented separately in the "Impact of Netting" column. The Company often enters into different types of derivative contracts with a single counterparty and these contracts are covered under one ISDA master netting agreement. The fair value of the individual derivative contracts are reported gross in their respective levels based on the fair value hierarchy.

Other assets and other liabilities represent those financial assets and liabilities that the Company carries at fair value but are not included in "Financial instruments owned, at fair value" and "Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value" captions. Other assets includes certain items such as alternative investments, mortgage servicing rights, assets of VIEs and mortgage securitizations that did not meet the criteria for sale treatment under SFAS No. 140. Other liabilities is primarily comprised of certain hybrid debt issuances accounted for at fair value as elected in accordance with SFAS No. 155. The impact on income before provision for income taxes and on net earnings due to changes in fair value pursuant to the election of SFAS No. 155 was \$218.0 million and \$125.0 million, respectively, net of certain direct expenses, for the three months ended August 31, 2007.

15

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

The following tables provide a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for the major classes of assets and liabilities measured at fair value using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

Level 3 Financial Assets and Liabilities Nine months ended August 31, 2007

(in thousands)	Beginning Balance as of December 1, 2006	Total Gains/ (Losses) (Realized and Unrealized)	Purchases, Issuances, Sales and Settlements	Transfers In/Out of Level 3	E as
Non-Derivative Trading Assets	\$ 8,999,658	\$ (541,636)	\$ 5,944,717	\$ 222,781	\$
Non Derivative Trading Liabilities	\$ (190,141)	\$ (2,739)	\$ 111,229	\$ 73,964	\$
Derivative Trading Inventory (Net)	\$ (2,223,112)	\$ (42,952)	\$ 1,190,984	\$ (58,793)	\$
Other Assets	\$ 2,836,060	\$ 2,607	\$ 615,326	\$ 198,007	\$
Other Liabilities	\$ (3,514,847)	\$ 245,335	\$ 1,367,645	\$ (240,170)	\$

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Level 3 Financial Assets and Liabilities
Three months ended August 31, 2007

(in thousands)	Beginning Balance as of June 1, 2007	Total Gains/ (Losses) (Realized and Unrealized)	Purchases, Issuances, Sales and Settlements	Transfers In/Out of Level 3	En as
Non-Derivative Trading Assets	\$ 9,536,370	\$ (255,411)	\$ 5,153,759	\$ 190,802	\$
Non Derivative Trading Liabilities	\$ (150,610)	\$ (7,942)	\$ 150,369	\$ 496	\$
Derivative Trading Inventory (Net)	\$ (942,228)	\$ 449,672	\$ 87,879	\$ (729,196)	\$
Other Assets	\$ 3,626,461	\$ (22,756)	\$ 70,244	\$ (21,949)	\$
Other Liabilities	\$ (2,918,142)	\$ 244,052	\$ 531,550	\$ 503	\$

Realized and unrealized gains and losses on Level 3 assets and liabilities are primarily reported in "Principal transactions" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. The Company manages its exposure on a portfolio basis and regularly engages in offsetting strategies in which financial instruments from one fair value hierarchy level are used to economically offset the risk of financial instruments in the same or different levels. Therefore, realized and unrealized gains and losses reported as Level 3 may be offset by gains or losses attributable to assets or liabilities classified in Level 1 or Level 2.

The Company reviews the fair value hierarchy classifications on a monthly basis. Changes in the observability of the valuation attributes may result in a reclassification of certain financial assets or liabilities. Such reclassifications are reported as transfers in/out of Level 3 at fair value in the month in which the changes occur.

3. DERIVATIVES AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES

The Company, in its capacity as a dealer in over-the-counter derivative financial instruments and its proprietary market-making and trading activities, enters into transactions in a variety of cash and derivative financial instruments for proprietary trading and to manage its exposure to market and credit risk. These risks include interest rate, exchange rate, equity price, and commodity price risk. Derivative financial instruments represent contractual commitments between counterparties that derive their value from changes in an underlying interest rate, currency exchange rate, index (e.g., Standard & Poor's 500 Index), reference rate (e.g., London Interbank Offered Rate, or LIBOR), or asset value referenced in the related contract. Some derivatives, such as futures contracts, certain options and index-referenced warrants, can be traded on an exchange. Other derivatives, such as interest rate and currency swaps, caps, floors, collars, swaptions, equity swaps and options, credit derivatives, structured notes and forward contracts, are negotiated in the over-the-counter markets. Derivatives generate both on- and off-balance-sheet risks depending on the nature of the contract. Generally, these financial instruments represent commitments or rights to exchange interest payment streams or currencies or to purchase or sell other securities at specific terms at

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

specified future dates. Option contracts generally provide the holder with the right, but not the obligation, to purchase or sell a financial instrument at a specific price on or before an established date or dates. Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased may result in market and/or credit risk in excess of amounts recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Market Risk

Derivative financial instruments involve varying degrees of off-balance-sheet market risk, whereby changes in the level or volatility of interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates or market values of the underlying financial instruments may result in changes in the value of a particular financial instrument in excess of the amounts currently reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The Company's exposure to market risk is influenced by a number of factors, including the relationships among and between financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk, the Company's proprietary securities, futures and derivatives inventories as well as the volatility and liquidity in the markets in which the financial instruments are traded. The Company mitigates its exposure to market risk by entering into offsetting transactions, which may include over-the-counter derivative contracts or the purchase or sale of interest-bearing securities, equity securities, financial futures and forward contracts. In this regard, the utilization of derivative instruments is designed to reduce or mitigate market risks associated with holding dealer inventories or in connection with arbitrage-related trading activities.

Derivatives Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from the potential inability of counterparties to perform in accordance with the terms of the contract. At any point in time, the Company's exposure to credit risk associated with counterparty non-performance is generally limited to the net replacement cost of over-the-counter contracts, net of the value of collateral held. Such financial instruments are reported at fair value on a net-by-counterparty basis pursuant to enforceable netting agreements. Exchange-traded financial instruments, such as futures and options, generally do not give rise to significant unsecured counterparty exposure due to the Company's margin requirements, which may be greater than those prescribed by the individual exchanges. Options written by the Company generally do not give rise to counterparty credit risk since they obligate the Company (not its counterparty) to perform.

The Company has controls in place to monitor credit exposures by assessing the future creditworthiness of counterparties and limiting transactions with specific counterparties. The Company also seeks to control credit risk by following an established credit approval process, monitoring credit limits and requiring collateral where appropriate.

Hedging Activity

To modify the interest rate characteristics of its long- and short-term debt, the Company also engages in non-trading derivatives activities. The Company has issued U.S. dollar- and foreign currency-denominated debt with

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

both variable- and fixed-rate interest payment obligations. The Company has entered into interest rate swaps, primarily based on LIBOR, to convert fixed-rate interest payments on its debt obligations into variable-rate payments. In addition, for foreign currency debt obligations that are not used to fund assets in the same currency, the Company has entered into currency swap agreements that effectively convert the debt into U.S. dollar obligations. Such transactions are accounted for as fair value hedges.

These financial instruments are subject to the same market and credit risks as those that are traded in connection with the Company's market-making and trading activities. The Company has similar controls in place to monitor these risks. SFAS No. 133, as amended by SFAS No. 138 and SFAS No. 149, establishes accounting and reporting standards for stand-alone derivative instruments, derivatives embedded within other contracts or securities and for hedging activities. It requires that all derivatives, whether stand-alone or embedded within other contracts or securities (except in very defined circumstances) be carried on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at fair value. SFAS No. 133 also requires items designated as being fair value hedged to be marked to market for the risk being hedged, as defined in SFAS No. 133, provided that the intent to hedge is fully documented. Any resultant net change in value for the hedging derivative and the hedged item for the risk being hedged is recognized in earnings immediately, such net effect being deemed the "ineffective" portion of the hedge. The gains and losses associated with the ineffective portion of the fair value hedges are included in "Principal

17

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

transactions" revenues in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. These amounts were immaterial for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006.

4. TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Securitizations

The Company is a market leader in mortgage-backed securitization and other structured financing arrangements. In the normal course of business, the Company regularly securitizes commercial and residential mortgages, consumer receivables and other financial assets. Securitization transactions are generally treated as sales, provided that control has been relinquished. In connection with securitization transactions, the Company establishes special-purpose entities ("SPEs"), in which transferred assets, including commercial and residential mortgages, consumer receivables and other financial assets are sold to an SPE and repackaged into securities or similar beneficial interests. Transferred assets are accounted for at fair value prior to securitization. The majority of the Company's involvement with SPEs relates to securitization transactions meeting the definition of a QSPE under the provisions of SFAS No. 140. Provided it has relinquished control over such assets, the Company derecognizes financial assets transferred in securitizations and does not consolidate the financial statements of QSPEs. For SPEs that do not meet the QSPE criteria, the Company uses the guidance in FIN No. 46 (R) to determine whether the SPE should be consolidated.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

In connection with these securitization activities, the Company may retain interests in securitized assets in the form of senior or subordinated securities or as residual interests. Retained interests in securitizations are generally not held to maturity and typically are sold shortly after the settlement of a securitization. The weighted average holding period for retained interest positions in inventory at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006 was approximately 140 days and 150 days, respectively. These retained interests are included in "Financial instruments owned, at fair value" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition and are carried at fair value. Consistent with the valuation of similar inventory, fair value is determined by broker-dealer price quotations and internal valuation pricing models that utilize variables such as yield curves, prepayment speeds, default rates, loss severity, interest rate volatilities and spreads. The assumptions used for pricing variables are based on observable transactions in similar securities and are further verified by external pricing sources, when available.

The Company's securitization activities are detailed below:

(in billions)	Agency Mortgage- Backed	Other Mortgage- and Asset- Backed	Total

Total securitizations			
Nine months ended August 31, 2007	\$19.7	\$64.4	\$84.1
Nine months ended August 31, 2006	\$17.6	\$73.9	\$91.5
Retained interests			
As of August 31, 2007	\$ 2.9	\$ 6.7	\$ 9.6 (1)
As of November 30, 2006	\$ 1.5	\$ 4.1	\$ 5.6 (2)

(1) Includes approximately \$8.1 billion in investment-grade retained interests of which \$6.2 billion is AAA rated.

(2) Includes approximately \$4.3 billion in investment-grade retained interests of which \$3.0 billion is AAA rated.

18

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

The following table summarizes cash flows from securitization trusts related to securitization transactions during the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006:

(in millions)	Agency Mortgage- Backed	Other Mortgage- and Asset-Backed	Total

Cash flows received from retained interests			
Nine months ended August 31, 2007	\$156.9	\$479.4	\$636.3
Nine months ended August 31, 2006	\$208.4	\$670.9	\$879.3
Cash flows from servicing			
Nine months ended August 31, 2007	\$ 0.4	\$43.7	\$44.1
Nine months ended August 31, 2006	\$ 0.1	\$55.9	\$56.0

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Company is an active market maker in mortgage-backed securities and therefore may retain interests in assets it securitizes, predominantly highly rated or government agency-backed securities. The models employed in the valuation of retained interests consider possible changes in prepayment speeds in response to changes in future interest rates, as well as potential credit losses. Prepayment speed changes are incorporated by calibrating the distribution of possible future interest rates to the observed levels of implied volatility in the market for interest rate options and generating the corresponding cash flows for the securities using prepayment models. Credit losses are considered through explicit loss models for positions exposed to significant default risk in the underlying collateral, and through option-adjusted spreads that also incorporate additional factors such as liquidity and model uncertainty for all positions. The models use discount rates that are based on the Treasury curve, plus the option-adjusted spread. Key points on the constant maturity Treasury curve at August 31, 2007 were 4.19% for 2-year Treasuries and 4.67% for 10-year Treasuries, and ranged from 4.02% to 4.90%. The weighted average spread was 13 basis points and 712 basis points for agency mortgage-backed securities and other mortgage- and asset-backed securities, respectively, at August 31, 2007.

Key economic assumptions used in measuring the fair value of retained interests in assets the Company securitized at August 31, 2007 were as follows:

	Agency Mortgage- Backed	Other Mortgage- and Asset-Backed
Weighted average life (years)	8.3	6.8
Average prepayment speeds (annual rate)	8% - 24%	7% - 36%
Credit losses	-	0% - 40%

The following hypothetical sensitivity analysis as of August 31, 2007 illustrates the potential adverse change in fair value of these retained interests due to a specified change in the key valuation assumptions. The interest rate changes represent a parallel shift in the Treasury curve. This shift considers the corresponding effect of other variables, including prepayments. The remaining valuation assumptions are changed independently. Retained interests in securitizations are generally not held to maturity and are typically sold shortly after the settlement of a securitization. The Company considers the current and expected credit profile of the underlying collateral in determining the fair value and periodically updates the fair value for changes in credit, interest rate, prepayment and other pertinent market factors. Changes in portfolio composition, updates to loss and prepayment models, and changes in the level of interest rates and market prices for retained interests, can combine to produce significant changes in the sensitivities reported even if aggregate market values do not change significantly. Actual credit losses on retained interests have not been significant.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

(in millions)	Mortgage- Backed	and Asset-Backed

Interest rates		
Impact of 50 basis point adverse change	\$ (87.6)	(134.6)
Impact of 100 basis point adverse change	(176.5)	(238.3)

Prepayment speeds		
Impact of 10% adverse change	(1.2)	(27.8)
Impact of 20% adverse change	(1.9)	(37.7)

Credit losses		
Impact of 10% adverse change	(2.9)	(112.0)
Impact of 20% adverse change	(5.7)	(211.0)

The above table should be viewed with caution since the changes in a single variable generally cannot occur without changes in other variables or conditions that may counteract or amplify the effect of the changes outlined in the table. Changes in fair value based on adverse variations in assumptions generally cannot be extrapolated because the relationship of the change in assumptions to the change in fair value is not usually linear. In addition, the table does not consider the change in fair value of offsetting positions, which would generally offset the changes detailed in the table, nor does it consider any corrective action that the Company may take in response to changes in these conditions. The impact of offsetting positions is not presented because these positions are established on a portfolio level and allocating the impact would not be practicable.

Mortgage Servicing Rights

In the normal course of business, the Company originates and purchases conforming and non-conforming, conventional fixed-rate and adjustable-rate residential mortgage loans and sells such loans to investors. In connection with these activities, the Company may retain MSR rights that entitle the Company to a future stream of cash flows based on the contractual servicing fee. In addition, the Company may purchase and sell MSR rights.

As of December 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS No. 156 and elected to carry its MSR rights at fair value, with changes in fair value reported in earnings. Prior to December 1, 2006, the Company reported the MSR rights on a lower of cost or market basis.

The determination of fair value of the Company's MSR rights requires management judgment because they are not actively traded. The determination of fair value for MSR rights requires valuation processes which combine the use of discounted cash flow models and extensive analysis of current market data to arrive at an estimate of fair value. The cash flow and prepayment assumptions used in the Company's discounted cash flow model are based on empirical data drawn from the historical performance of the Company's MSR rights, which the Company believes are consistent with assumptions used by market participants valuing similar MSR rights. The key risks and therefore the key assumptions used in the valuation of MSR rights include mortgage prepayment speeds and the discount rates. These variables can, and generally will, change from quarter to quarter as market conditions and projected interest rates change. The Company mitigates the income statement effect of changes in fair value of MSR rights by entering into economic offsetting transactions.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
 NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 (UNAUDITED)

At August 31, 2007, the key economic assumptions and the sensitivity of the current fair value of MSRs to immediate changes in those assumptions were as follows:

(in millions)	August 31, 2007
Fair value of MSRs	\$ 759.6
Weighted average constant prepayment rate (CPR)	17.2%
Impact on fair value of:	
5 CPR adverse change	\$ (71.0)
10 CPR adverse change	(129.7)
Weighted average discount rate	14.5%
Impact on fair value of:	
5% adverse change	\$ (70.8)
10% adverse change	(128.4)

The above table should be viewed with caution since the changes in a single variable generally cannot occur without changes in other variables or conditions that may counteract or amplify the effect of the changes outlined in the table. Changes in fair value based on adverse variations in assumptions generally cannot be extrapolated because the relationship of the change in assumptions to the change in fair value is not usually linear. In addition, the table does not consider the change in fair value of offsetting positions, which would generally offset the changes detailed in the table, nor does it consider any corrective action that the Company may take in response to changes in these conditions. The impact of offsetting positions is not presented because these positions are established on a portfolio level and allocating the impact would not be practicable.

MSRs are included in "Other assets" on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The Company's MSR activities for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 was as follows:

(in millions)	Nine months ended August 31, 2007
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 502.0
Additions	230.8
Paydowns	(115.6)
Changes in fair value resulting from changes in valuation inputs/assumptions	142.4
Balance, end of period	\$ 759.6
=====	

5. VARIABLE INTEREST ENTITIES AND MORTGAGE LOAN SPECIAL PURPOSE ENTITIES

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Company regularly creates or transacts with entities that may be variable interest entities (VIEs). These entities are an essential part of the Company's securitization, asset management and structured finance businesses. In addition, the Company purchases and sells financial instruments that may be variable interests. The Company follows the guidance in FIN No. 46(R) and consolidates those VIEs in which the Company is the primary beneficiary.

The Company may perform various functions, including acting as the seller, servicer, investor, structurer or underwriter in securitization transactions. These transactions typically involve entities that are considered to be QSPEs as defined in SFAS No. 140. QSPEs are exempt from the requirements of FIN No. 46 (R). For securitization vehicles that do not qualify as QSPEs, the holders of the beneficial interests have no recourse to the Company, only to the assets held by the related VIE. In certain of these VIEs, the Company could be determined to be the primary beneficiary through its ownership of certain beneficial interests, and would, therefore, be required to consolidate the assets and liabilities of the VIE.

21

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

The Company has a limited number of mortgage securitizations that did not meet the criteria for sale treatment under SFAS No. 140, including transactions where the retained call option did not meet the definition of a clean up call under SFAS No. 140. As such, the Company continues to carry the assets and liabilities from these transactions on its Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

The Company acts as portfolio manager in several collateralized debt obligation and collateralized loan obligation transactions. In these transactions, the Company establishes a trust that purchases a portfolio of assets and issues trust certificates that represent interests in the portfolio of assets. The holders of the trust certificates have recourse only to the underlying assets of the trusts and not to the Company's other assets. In addition, the Company may receive variable compensation for managing the portfolio and may also retain certain trust certificates. In certain of these transactions, these interests result in the Company becoming the primary beneficiary of these entities.

The Company establishes and operates funds for the benefit of its employees. These funds are considered to be VIEs of which the Company is the primary beneficiary.

The Company invests in certain distressed debt instruments of which the issuers are VIEs. The Company has determined that it is the primary beneficiary of such VIEs.

The Company has made investments in entities that own power plants. Certain entities are VIEs of which the Company is the primary beneficiary.

The following table sets forth the Company's total assets and maximum exposure to loss associated with its significant variable interests in consolidated VIEs and securitizations that did not qualify for sale treatment. This information is presented based on principal business activity, as reflected in the first column.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

	As of August 31, 2007		As of November 30, 2006	
(in millions)	VIE Assets	Maximum Exposure to Loss (1)	VIE Assets	Maximum Exposure to Loss (1)
Mortgage Securitizations	\$ 37,363	\$ 1,269	\$ 28,984	\$ 762
Collateralized Debt and Loan Obligations	2,459	437	685	48
Employee Funds(2)	710	492	575	355
Distressed Debt	72	72	59	59
Energy Investments	441	132	--	--
Total	\$ 41,045	\$ 2,402	\$ 30,303	\$ 1,224

- (1) Represents the fair value of the Company's interest in these entities.
- (2) Maximum exposure to loss includes loans the Company has made to employees who participate in the funds, for which the Company is in a second loss position.

Note: Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

The Company also owns significant variable interests in several VIEs related to collateralized debt obligations and collateralized loan obligations for which the Company is not the primary beneficiary and therefore does not consolidate these entities. In aggregate, these VIEs had assets of approximately \$21.3 billion and \$14.8 billion at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the Company's maximum exposure to loss from these entities was approximately \$194.0 million and \$163.2 million, respectively, which represents the fair value of its interests and are included in "Financial instruments owned, at fair value" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

The Company purchases and sells interests in entities that may be deemed to be VIEs in its market-making capacity in the ordinary course of business. As a result of these activities, it is reasonably possible that such entities may be consolidated or deconsolidated at various points in time. Therefore, the Company's variable interests included above may not be held by the Company in future periods.

22

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

6. COLLATERALIZED FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS

The Company enters into secured borrowing and lending agreements to obtain collateral necessary to effect settlements, finance inventory positions, meet customer needs or re-lend as part of its dealer operations.

The Company receives collateral under reverse repurchase agreements, securities borrowing transactions, derivative transactions, customer margin loans and other secured money-lending activities. In many instances, the Company is also permitted by contract or custom to

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

rehypothecate securities received as collateral. These securities may be used to secure repurchase agreements, enter into securities lending or derivative transactions or cover short positions.

At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the fair value of securities received as collateral by the Company that can be repledged, delivered or otherwise used was approximately \$283 billion and \$286 billion, respectively. Of these securities received as collateral, those with a fair value of approximately \$184 billion and \$190 billion were delivered, repledged or otherwise used at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively.

The Company also pledges financial instruments owned to collateralize certain financing arrangements and permits the counterparty to pledge or rehypothecate the securities. These securities are recorded as "Financial Instruments owned and pledged as collateral, at fair value" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The carrying value of securities and other inventory positions owned that have been pledged or otherwise encumbered to counterparties where those counterparties do not have the right to sell or repledge was approximately \$64 billion and \$42 billion at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively.

7. UNSECURED SHORT-TERM BORROWINGS

The Company obtains unsecured short-term borrowings through the issuance of commercial paper, bank loans, medium term notes and other borrowings. The Company's unsecured short-term borrowings at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006 consisted of the following:

(in billions)	August 31, 2007	November 30, 2006
Commercial paper	\$ 4.6	\$ 20.7
Bank loans	3.6	1.7
Medium term notes	1.9	0.3
Other borrowings	2.9	3.1
Total unsecured short-term borrowings	\$ 13.0	\$ 25.8

Note: Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

Committed Credit Facilities

The Company has a committed revolving credit facility ("Facility") totaling \$4.0 billion, which permits borrowing on a secured basis by the Parent Company, BSSC, BSIL and certain other subsidiaries. The Facility also allows the Parent Company, BSIL and Bear Stearns International Trading Limited ("BSIT") to borrow up to \$4.0 billion of the Facility on an unsecured basis. Secured borrowings can be collateralized by both investment-grade and non-investment-grade financial instruments as the Facility provides for defined advance rates on a wide range of financial instruments eligible to be pledged. The Facility contains financial covenants, the most significant of which require maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company and net capital of BSSC. The Facility terminates in February 2008, with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than February 2009. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company has a \$1.5 billion committed revolving securities repo

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

facility ("Repo Facility"), which permits borrowings secured by a broad range of collateral under a repurchase arrangement by the Parent Company, BSIL, BSIT, BSB and BS Forex. The Repo Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company. The Repo Facility terminates in August 2008, with all repos outstanding at that date payable no later than August 2009. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Repo Facility at August 31, 2007.

23

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

The Company has a \$350 million committed revolving credit facility ("Pan Asian Facility"), which permits borrowing on a secured basis by the Parent Company, BSSC, Bear Stearns Japan Limited ("BSJL"), and BSIL. The Pan Asian Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company and net capital of BSSC. The Pan Asian Facility terminates in December 2007 with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than December 2008. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Pan Asian Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company has a \$450 million committed revolving credit facility ("Tax Lien Facility"), which permits borrowing on a secured basis by the Parent Company, Plymouth Park Tax Services and Madison Tax Capital LLC. The Tax Lien Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company. The Tax Lien Facility terminates in March 2008 with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than March 2009. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Tax Lien Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company also maintains a series of committed credit facilities, which permit borrowing on a secured basis, to support liquidity needs for the financing of investment-grade and non-investment-grade corporate loans, residential mortgages, commercial mortgages, listed options, equities and auto loans. The facilities are expected to be drawn from time to time and expire at various dates, the longest of such periods ending in fiscal 2008. All of these facilities contain a term-out option of one year or more for borrowings outstanding at expiration. The banks providing these facilities are committed to provide up to an aggregate of approximately \$6.8 billion. At August 31, 2007, the borrowings outstanding under these committed credit facilities were approximately \$4.9 billion.

8. LONG-TERM BORROWINGS

The Company's long-term borrowings (which have original maturities of at least 12 months) at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006 consisted of the following:

(in billions)	August 31, 2007	November 30, 2006
Fixed rate notes due 2007 to 2047	\$ 25.03	\$ 22.52
Floating rate notes due 2007 to 2046	31.59	23.23
Index/equity/credit-linked notes	8.53	8.82
Total long-term borrowings	\$ 65.15	\$ 54.57

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Company's long-term borrowings include fair value adjustments as elected under SFAS No. 133 as well as hybrid financial instruments accounted for at fair value as elected under SFAS No. 155. During the nine months ended August 31, 2007, the Company issued and retired/repurchased \$20.24 billion and \$8.98 billion of long-term borrowings, respectively. The weighted average maturity of the Company's long-term borrowings, based upon stated maturity dates, was approximately 4.2 years and 4.4 years at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively.

9. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income applicable to common shares, adjusted for costs related to vested shares under the CAP Plan, as well as the effect of the redemption of preferred stock, by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Common shares outstanding includes vested units issued under certain stock compensation plans, which will be distributed as shares of common stock. Diluted EPS includes the determinants of basic EPS and, in addition, gives effect to dilutive potential common shares related to stock compensation plans.

24

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

The computations of basic and diluted EPS are set forth below:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months
(in thousands, except per share amounts)	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	August 31, 2007
Net income	\$ 171,298	\$ 437,556	\$ 1,086,763
Preferred stock dividends	(5,201)	(5,316)	(15,715)
Redemption of preferred stock	7	28	7
Income adjustment (net of tax) applicable to deferred compensation arrangements-vested shares	1,198	8,793	25,324
Net earnings used for basic EPS	167,302	441,061	1,096,379
Income adjustment (net of tax) applicable to deferred compensation arrangements-nonvested shares	944	8,057	18,659
Net earnings used for diluted EPS	\$ 168,246	\$ 449,118	\$ 1,115,038
Total basic weighted average common shares outstanding (1)	128,949	132,086	131,287
Effect of dilutive securities:			
Employee stock options	4,931	5,966	5,806
CAP and restricted units	11,225	10,847	10,809
Dilutive potential common shares	16,156	16,813	16,615
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding and dilutive potential common shares	145,105	148,899	147,902

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Basic EPS	\$	1.30	\$	3.34	\$	8.35
Diluted EPS	\$	1.16	\$	3.02	\$	7.54

- (1) Includes 12,698,950 and 12,949,398 vested units for the three months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, and 13,155,134 and 12,059,414 vested units for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, issued under stock compensation plans which will be distributed as shares of common stock.

10. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The Company is regulated by the SEC as a consolidated supervised entity ("CSE"). As a CSE, the Company is subject to group-wide supervision and examination by the SEC and is required to compute allowable capital and allowances for market, credit and operational risk on a consolidated basis. As of August 31, 2007, the Company was in compliance with the CSE capital requirements.

Bear Stearns and BSSC are registered broker-dealers and futures commission merchants and, accordingly, are subject to Rule 15c3-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Net Capital Rule") and Rule 1.17 under the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Bear Stearns uses Appendix E of the Net Capital Rule ("Appendix E") which establishes alternative net capital requirements for broker-dealers that are part of consolidated supervised entities. Appendix E allows Bear Stearns to calculate net capital charges for market risk and derivatives-related credit risk based on mathematical models provided that Bear Stearns holds tentative net capital in excess of \$1 billion and net capital in excess of \$500 million. At August 31, 2007, Bear Stearns' net capital of \$3.52 billion exceeded the minimum requirement by \$2.98 billion. Bear Stearns' net capital computation, as defined, includes \$1.49 billion, which is net capital of BSSC in excess of 5.5% of aggregate debit items arising from customer transactions.

BSIL and BSIT, London-based broker-dealer subsidiaries, are subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the United Kingdom's Financial Services Authority.

BSB, an Ireland-based bank principally involved in the trading and sales of fixed income products, is registered in Ireland and is subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the Financial Regulator.

Custodial Trust Company ("CTC"), a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insured New Jersey state chartered bank, offers a range of trust, lending and securities-clearing services. CTC provides the Company with banking powers, including access to the securities and funds-wire services of the Federal Reserve System. CTC is subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the FDIC.

At August 31, 2007, Bear Stearns, BSSC, BSIL, BSIT, BSB and CTC were in compliance with their respective regulatory capital requirements. Certain

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

other subsidiaries are subject to various securities regulations and capital adequacy requirements promulgated by the regulatory and exchange authorities of the countries in which they operate. At August 31, 2007, these other subsidiaries were in compliance with their applicable local capital adequacy requirements.

11. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

In the ordinary course of business, the Company has commitments in connection with various activities, the most significant of which are as follows:

Leases

The Company occupies office space under leases that expire at various dates through 2024. At August 31, 2007, future minimum aggregate annual rentals payable under non-cancelable leases (net of subleases), including 383 Madison Avenue in New York City, for fiscal years 2007 through 2011 and the aggregate amount thereafter, are as follows:

(in millions)

FISCAL YEAR

2007 (remaining)	\$	31
2008		129
2009		123
2010		123
2011		134
Thereafter		746

Total	\$	1,286
=====		

Lending - Related Commitments

In connection with certain of the Company's business activities, the Company provides financing or financing commitments to investment-grade and non-investment-grade companies in the form of senior and subordinated debt, including bridge financing. Commitments have varying maturity dates and are generally contingent on the accuracy and validity of certain representations, warranties and contractual conditions applicable to the borrower. Lending-related commitments to investment-grade borrowers aggregated approximately \$4.1 billion and \$3.8 billion at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. Of these amounts, approximately \$713.7 million and \$697.8 million of the credit risk was offset at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. Lending-related commitments to non-investment-grade borrowers approximated \$3.2 billion and \$2.0 billion at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. Of these amounts, approximately \$240.4 million and \$88.8 million of the credit risk was offset at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively.

The Company also had contingent commitments to non-investment-grade companies of approximately \$7.6 billion and \$17.5 billion as of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. Generally, these commitments are provided in connection with leveraged acquisitions. These commitments are not indicative of the Company's actual risk because the borrower may not be successful in the acquisition, the borrower may access the capital markets instead of drawing on the commitment, or the Company's portion of the commitment may be reduced through the syndication process. Additionally, the borrower's ability to draw may be subject to there being no material adverse change in either market conditions or the borrower's

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

financial condition, among other factors. These commitments generally contain certain flexible pricing features to adjust for changing market conditions prior to closing.

Private Equity-Related Investments and Partnerships

In connection with the Company's merchant banking activities, the Company has commitments to invest in merchant banking and private equity-related investment funds as well as commitments to invest directly in private equity-related investments. At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, such commitments aggregated \$1.18

26

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

billion and \$788.3 million, respectively. These commitments will be funded, if called, through the end of the respective investment periods, with the longest of such periods ending in 2017.

Underwriting

In connection with the Company's mortgage-backed securitizations and fixed income and equity underwriting, the Company had commitments to purchase new issues of securities aggregating \$124.2 million and \$205.0 million, respectively, at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006.

Commercial and Residential Loans

The Company participates in the origination, acquisition, securitization, servicing, financing and disposition of commercial and residential loans. At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the Company had entered into commitments to purchase or finance mortgage loans of \$9.3 billion and \$4.2 billion, respectively.

Letters of Credit

At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the Company was contingently liable for unsecured letters of credit of approximately \$2.1 billion and \$3.3 billion, respectively, and secured (by financial instruments) letters of credit of \$1.6 billion and \$1.3 billion, respectively. These letters of credit are primarily used to provide collateral for securities borrowed and to satisfy margin requirements at commodity/futures exchanges.

Other

The Company had commitments to purchase Chapter 13 and other credit card receivables of \$141.2 million and \$95.7 million, respectively, at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006.

With respect to certain of the commitments outlined above, the Company utilizes various hedging strategies to actively manage its market, credit and liquidity exposures. Additionally, since these commitments may expire unused, the total commitment amount may not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements.

Litigation

The Company is the sole defendant in an action commenced in the United

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

States Bankruptcy court for the Southern District of New York by the Chapter 11 Trustee for Manhattan Investment Fund Limited. As previously reported in the Company's Form 10-K for fiscal year ended November 30, 2006, the Bankruptcy Court granted the Trustee's motion for summary judgment on the fraudulent transfer claims against the Company. The Company has appealed the Bankruptcy Court's decision to the United States District for the Southern District of New York.

27

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

In the normal course of business, the Company has been named as a defendant in various legal actions, including arbitrations, class actions and other litigation. Certain of the legal actions include claims for substantial compensatory and/or punitive damages or claims for indeterminate amounts of damages. The Company is also involved in other reviews, investigations and proceedings by governmental and self-regulatory agencies regarding the Company's business, certain of which may result in adverse judgments, settlements, fines, penalties, injunctions or other relief.

Because litigation is inherently unpredictable, particularly in cases where claimants seek substantial or indeterminate damages or where investigations and proceedings are in the early stages, the Company cannot predict with certainty the loss or range of loss related to such matters, how such matters will be resolved, when they will ultimately be resolved, or what the eventual settlement, fine, penalty or other relief might be. Consequently, the Company cannot estimate losses or ranges of losses for matters where there is only a reasonable possibility that a loss may have been incurred. Although the ultimate outcome of these matters cannot be ascertained at this time, it is the opinion of management, after consultation with counsel, that the resolution of the foregoing matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Company, taken as a whole; such resolution may, however, have a material effect on the operating results in any future period, depending on the level of income for such period.

The Company has provided reserves for such matters in accordance with SFAS No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies." The ultimate resolution may differ materially from the amounts reserved.

Tax

The Company is under continuous examination by various tax authorities in jurisdictions in which the Company has significant business operations. The Company regularly evaluates the likelihood of additional assessments in each of the tax jurisdictions resulting from these examinations. Tax reserves have been established, which the Company believes to be adequate in relation to the potential for additional assessments. Once established, reserves are adjusted as information becomes available or when an event requiring a change to the reserve occurs.

12. GUARANTEES

In the ordinary course of business, the Company issues various guarantees to counterparties in connection with certain derivative, leasing, securitization and other transactions. FIN No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

of Indebtedness of Others," requires the Company to recognize a liability at the inception of certain guarantees and to disclose information about its obligations under certain guarantee arrangements.

The guarantees covered by FIN No. 45 include contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on changes related to an asset, a liability or an equity security of the guaranteed party, contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on another entity's failure to perform under an agreement and indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others, even though the payment to the guaranteed party may not be based on changes to an asset, liability or equity security of the guaranteed party. In addition, FIN No. 45 covers certain indemnification agreements that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the indemnified party, such as an adverse judgment in a lawsuit or the imposition of additional taxes due to either a change in the tax law or an adverse interpretation of the tax law.

The following table sets forth the maximum payout/notional amounts associated with the Company's guarantees as of August 31, 2007:

(in millions)	Amount of Guarantee Expiration P			
	Less Than One Year	One to Three Years	Three to Five Years	Gr F
Certain derivative contracts (notional) (1)	\$ 442,675	\$ 440,547	\$ 737,662	\$
Municipal securities	3,627	203	-	
Residual value guarantee	-	-	570	

(1) The gross carrying value of these derivatives approximated \$40.33 billion as of August 31, 2007.

28

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

Derivative Contracts

The Company's dealer activities cause it to make markets and trade a variety of derivative instruments. Certain derivative contracts that the Company has entered into meet the accounting definition of a guarantee under FIN No. 45. Derivatives that meet the FIN No. 45 definition of guarantees include credit default swaps (whereby a default or significant change in the credit quality of the underlying financial instrument may obligate the Company to make a payment), put options, as well as floors, caps and collars. Since the Company does not track the counterparties' purpose for entering into a derivative contract, it has disclosed derivative contracts that are likely to be used to protect against a change in an underlying financial instrument, regardless of their actual use.

On certain of these contracts, such as written interest rate caps and foreign currency options, the maximum payout cannot be quantified since the increase in interest rates and foreign exchange rates is not

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

contractually limited by the terms of the contracts. As such, the Company has disclosed notional amounts as a measure of the extent of its involvement in these classes of derivatives rather than maximum payout. Notional amounts do not represent the maximum payout and generally overstate the Company's exposure to these contracts.

In connection with these activities, the Company mitigates its exposure to market risk by entering into a variety of offsetting derivative contracts and security positions.

Municipal Securities

In 1997, the Company established a program whereby it created a series of municipal securities trusts in which it has retained interests. These trusts purchase fixed-rate, long-term, highly rated, insured or escrowed municipal bonds financed by the issuance of trust certificates. Certain of the trust certificates entitle the holder to receive future payments of principal and variable interest and to tender such certificates at the option of the holder on a periodic basis. The Company acts as placement agent and as liquidity provider. The purpose of the program is to allow the Company's clients to purchase synthetic short-term, floating-rate municipal debt that does not otherwise exist in the marketplace. In the Company's capacity as liquidity provider to the trusts, the maximum exposure to loss at August 31, 2007 was approximately \$3.83 billion, which represents the outstanding amount of all trust certificates. This exposure to loss is mitigated by the underlying municipal bonds held by trusts. The underlying municipal bonds in the trusts are either AAA or AA rated, insured or escrowed to maturity. Such bonds had a market value, net of related offsetting positions, approximating \$3.81 billion at August 31, 2007.

Residual Value Guarantee

The Company has entered into an operating lease arrangement for its world headquarters at 383 Madison Avenue in New York City (the "Synthetic Lease"). Under the terms of the Synthetic Lease, the Company is obligated to make monthly payments based on the lessor's underlying interest costs. The Synthetic Lease expires on August 10, 2012 unless both parties agree to a renewal prior to expiration. At the expiration date of the Synthetic Lease, the Company has the right to purchase the building for the amount of the then outstanding indebtedness of the lessor or to arrange for the sale of the property with the proceeds of the sale to be used to satisfy the lessor's debt obligation. If the sale of the property does not generate sufficient proceeds to satisfy the lessor's debt obligation, the Company is required to fund the shortfall up to a maximum residual value guarantee. As of August 31, 2007, there was no expected shortfall and the maximum residual value guarantee was approximately \$570 million.

Indemnifications

The Company provides representations and warranties to counterparties in connection with a variety of commercial transactions, including certain asset sales and securitizations and occasionally indemnifies them against potential losses caused by the breach of those representations and warranties. To mitigate these risks with respect to assets being securitized that have been originated by third parties, the Company seeks to obtain appropriate representations and warranties from such third-party originators upon acquisition of such assets. The Company generally performs due diligence on assets purchased and maintains underwriting standards for assets originated. The Company may also provide indemnifications to certain counterparties to protect them in the event additional taxes are owed or payments are withheld, due either to a change

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

in or adverse application of certain tax laws. These indemnifications

29

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

generally are standard contractual terms and are entered into in the normal course of business. Generally, there are no stated or notional amounts included in these indemnifications.

Maximum payout information under these indemnifications is not readily available because of the number, size and lives of these transactions. In implementing this accounting interpretation, the Company reviewed its experience with the indemnifications on these structures. Based on such experience, it is unlikely that these arrangements will have a material impact on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

Other Guarantees

The Company is a member of numerous exchanges and clearinghouses. Under the membership agreements, members are generally required to guarantee the performance of other members. Therefore, if a member becomes unable to satisfy its obligations to the clearinghouse, other members would be required to meet these shortfalls. To mitigate these performance risks, the exchanges and clearinghouses often require members to post collateral. The Company's maximum potential liability under these arrangements cannot be quantified. However, the potential for the Company to be required to make payments under these arrangements is remote. Accordingly, no contingent liability is recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for these arrangements.

13. SEGMENT DATA

The Company operates in three principal segments -- Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management. These segments offer different products and services and are managed separately as different levels and types of expertise are required to effectively manage the segments' transactions.

The Capital Markets segment comprises the institutional equities, fixed income and investment banking areas. The Capital Markets segment operates as a single integrated unit that provides the sales, trading and origination effort for various fixed income, equity and advisory products and services. Each of the three businesses work in tandem to deliver these services to institutional and corporate clients.

Institutional equities consists of sales, trading and research, in areas such as domestic and international equities, block trading, over-the-counter equities, equity derivatives, energy and commodity activities, risk and convertible arbitrage and specialist activities on the NYSE, AMEX and ISE. Fixed income includes sales, trading, origination and research provided to institutional clients across a variety of products such as mortgage- and asset-backed securities, corporate and government bonds, municipal bonds, high yield products, including bank and bridge loans, foreign exchange and interest rate and credit derivatives. Investment banking provides services in capital raising, strategic advice, mergers and acquisitions and merchant banking. Capital raising encompasses the Company's underwriting of equity, investment grade, municipal and high yield debt products.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Global Clearing Services segment provides execution, clearing, margin lending and securities borrowing to facilitate customer short sales to clearing clients worldwide. Prime brokerage clients include hedge funds and clients of money managers, short sellers and other professional investors. Fully disclosed clients engage in either the retail or institutional brokerage business.

The Wealth Management segment is composed of the PCS and asset management areas. PCS provides high-net-worth individuals with an institutional level of investment service, including access to the Company's resources and professionals. Asset management manages equity, fixed income and alternative assets for leading corporate pension plans, public systems, endowments, foundations, multi-employer plans, insurance companies, corporations, families and high-net-worth individuals in the United States and abroad.

The three business segments comprise many business areas, with interactions among each. Revenues and expenses include those that are directly related to each segment. Revenues from intersegment transactions are based upon specific criteria or agreed upon rates with such amounts eliminated in consolidation. Individual segments also include revenues and expenses relating to various items, including corporate overhead and interest, which are internally allocated by the Company primarily based on balance sheet usage or expense levels. The Company generally evaluates performance of the segments based on net revenues and profit or loss before provision for income taxes.

30

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

(in thousands)	Three Months ended		Nine Months	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	August 31, 2007	A
NET REVENUES				
Capital Markets				
Institutional Equities	\$ 718,994	\$ 471,006	\$ 1,774,332	\$
Fixed Income	117,563	944,974	2,229,202	
Investment Banking	211,227	231,501	871,197	
Total Capital Markets	1,047,784	1,647,481	4,874,731	
Global Clearing Services	331,937	255,407	924,280	
Wealth Management				
Private Client Services (1)	147,500	128,089	440,919	
Asset Management	(185,812)	104,587	117,461	
Total Wealth Management	(38,312)	232,676	558,380	
Other (2)	(10,660)	(6,429)	(32,894)	

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Total net revenues	\$ 1,330,749	\$ 2,129,135	\$ 6,324,497	\$
PRE-TAX INCOME				
Capital Markets	\$ 241,931	\$ 580,234	\$ 1,355,169	(4) \$
Global Clearing Services	153,412	95,258	420,963	
Wealth Management	(226,511)	18,018	(126,293)	
Other (3)	5,994	(26,272)	(86,150)	
Total pre-tax income	\$ 174,826	\$ 667,238	\$ 1,563,689	\$

	Three Months ended		Nine Months	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	August 31, 2007	Au
(1) Private Client Services detail:				
Gross revenues, before transfer to Capital Markets segment	\$ 168,486	\$ 149,189	\$ 519,157	\$
Revenue transferred to Capital Markets segment	(20,986)	(21,100)	(78,238)	
Private Client Services net revenues	\$ 147,500	\$ 128,089	\$ 440,919	\$

(2) Includes consolidation and elimination entries.

(3) Includes certain legal costs and costs related to the CAP Plan.

(4) Includes a non-cash charge of \$227.5 million related to the write-off of intangible assets, representing goodwill and specialist rights associated with our NYSE specialist activities.

Note: Certain prior period items have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

(in billions)	As of	
	August 31, 2007	November 30, 2006
SEGMENT ASSETS		
Capital Markets	\$ 255	\$ 240
Global Clearing Services	114	99
Wealth Management	5	3
Other	23	8
Total segment assets	\$ 397	\$ 350

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

14. BUSINESS ACQUISITION

On May 20, 2007, Bear Energy LP, a Houston-based, wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, signed a definitive agreement to acquire substantially all of the power-related and natural gas assets comprising the power trading business of Williams Power Company, Inc., an energy trading and marketing subsidiary of The Williams Companies, Inc. for cash consideration of \$512 million, subject to adjustments specified in the Asset Purchase Agreement. The transaction, which is subject to regulatory and other approvals, is expected to close during the fiscal fourth quarter ending November 30, 2007. The results of operations of the power-related assets acquired will be included in the Company's Capital Markets segment.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.

We have reviewed the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and subsidiaries as of August 31, 2007, and the related condensed consolidated statements of income for the three-month and nine-month periods ended August 31, 2007 and 2006 and cash flows for the nine-month periods ended August 31, 2007 and 2006. These interim financial statements are the responsibility of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.'s management.

We conducted our reviews in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to such condensed consolidated interim financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated statement of financial condition of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and subsidiaries as of November 30, 2006, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and changes in stockholders' equity for the fiscal year then ended (not presented herein); and in our report dated February 12, 2007, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition as of November 30, 2006 is fairly stated, in all material

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

respects, in relation to the consolidated statement of financial condition from which it has been derived.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP
New York, New York
October 9, 2007

33

Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. (the "Company") is a holding company that, through its broker-dealer and international bank subsidiaries, principally Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. ("Bear Stearns"), Bear, Stearns Securities Corp. ("BSSC"), Bear, Stearns International Limited ("BSIL") and Bear Stearns Bank plc ("BSB"), is a leading investment banking, securities and derivatives trading, clearance and brokerage firm serving corporations, governments, institutional and individual investors worldwide. BSSC, a subsidiary of Bear Stearns, provides professional and correspondent clearing services in addition to clearing and settling customer transactions and certain proprietary transactions of the Company. The Company also conducts significant activities through other wholly owned subsidiaries, including: Bear Stearns Global Lending Limited; Custodial Trust Company; Bear Stearns Financial Products Inc.; Bear Stearns Capital Markets Inc.; Bear Stearns Credit Products Inc.; Bear Stearns Forex Inc. ("BS Forex"); EMC Mortgage Corporation; Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc.; Bear Energy L.P.; and Bear Hunter Holdings LLC. The Company is primarily engaged in business as a securities broker-dealer operating in three principal segments: Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management. As used in this report, the "Company" refers (unless the context requires otherwise) to The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. and its subsidiaries. Unless specifically noted otherwise, all references to the three and nine months of 2007 and 2006 refer to the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, and all references to quarters are to the Company's fiscal quarters.

For a description of the Company's business, including its trading in cash instruments and derivative products, its underwriting and trading policies, and their respective risks, and the Company's risk management policies and procedures, see the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2006, as filed by the Company under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act").

The Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read together with the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the Consolidated Financial Statements in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

CERTAIN FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company's principal business activities--investment banking, securities and derivatives sales and trading, clearance, brokerage and asset management--are, by their nature, highly competitive and subject to various risks, including volatile trading markets and fluctuations in the volume of market activity. Consequently, the Company's net income and revenues have been, and are likely to continue to be, subject to wide fluctuations, reflecting the effect of many factors, including general economic conditions, securities market conditions, the level and volatility of interest rates and equity prices, competitive conditions, liquidity of global markets, international and regional political

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

conditions, regulatory and legislative developments, monetary and fiscal policy, investor sentiment, availability and cost of capital, technological changes and events, outcome of legal proceedings, changes in currency values, inflation, credit ratings and the size, volume and timing of transactions.

These and other factors can affect the Company's volume of new securities issuances, mergers and acquisitions and business restructurings; the stability and liquidity of securities and futures markets; and the ability of issuers, other securities firms and counterparties to perform on their obligations. A decrease in the volume of new securities issuances, mergers and acquisitions or restructurings generally results in lower revenues from investment banking and, to a lesser extent, reduced principal transactions. A reduced volume of securities and futures transactions and reduced market liquidity generally results in lower revenues from principal transactions and commissions. Lower price levels for securities may result in a reduced volume of transactions, and may also result in losses from declines in the market value of securities held in proprietary trading and underwriting accounts. In periods of reduced sales and trading or investment banking activity, profitability may be adversely affected because certain expenses remain relatively fixed. The Company's securities trading, derivatives, arbitrage, market-making, specialist, leveraged lending, leveraged buyout and underwriting activities are conducted by it on a principal basis and expose the Company to significant risk of loss. Such risks include market, counterparty credit and liquidity risks. For a further discussion of these risks and how the Company seeks to manage risks, see the "Risk Factors," "Risk Management" and "Liquidity and Capital Resources" sections of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" and "Risk Factors" sections in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

34

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Substantial legal liability or a significant regulatory action against the Company could have a material adverse effect or cause significant reputational harm to the Company, which in turn could seriously harm the Company's business prospects. Firms in the financial services industry have been operating in a stringent regulatory environment. The Company faces significant legal risks in its businesses, and the volume of claims and amount of damages and penalties claimed in litigation and regulatory proceedings against financial institutions have been increasing.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this discussion are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements concerning management's expectations, strategic objectives, business prospects, anticipated economic performance and financial condition and other similar matters are subject to risks and uncertainties, including those described in the prior paragraphs, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of the document in which they are made. We disclaim any obligation or undertaking to provide any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which the forward-looking statement is based.

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

Summary of Results

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The operating environment during the Company's quarter ended August 31, 2007 was extremely challenging. Weakness in the Company's fixed income and asset management businesses more than offset a record quarter for the Company's institutional equities and clearing businesses. The Company's revenues, net of interest expense ("net revenues") for the three months ended August 31, 2007 decreased 37.5% to \$1.33 billion from \$2.13 billion for the three months ended August 31, 2006, while pre-tax earnings decreased 73.8% during the same period. Pre-tax profit margins for the 2007 quarter decreased to 13.1% when compared with 31.3% in the 2006 quarter. Annualized return on average common equity was 5.3% for the quarter ended August 31, 2007 compared with 15.8% in the 2006 quarter.

Capital Markets net revenues for the 2007 quarter decreased compared with the 2006 quarter due to decreased net revenues from fixed income and investment banking, partially offset by record net revenues from institutional equities. Fixed income net revenues decreased significantly in the 2007 quarter from the 2006 quarter, due to extremely challenging U.S. mortgage and credit markets. The Company recognized approximately \$700 million in net inventory markdowns during the 2007 quarter primarily related to losses experienced in the mortgage-related and leveraged finance areas. Mortgage revenues for the 2007 quarter reflected inventory markdowns in both whole loan collateral and residential and commercial mortgage-backed securities. In addition, the large supply of pending leverage finance activity, together with investor concerns, served to reduce liquidity and price in the leverage finance market during the 2007 quarter. As a result, the Company recorded a markdown of approximately \$250 million on our pipeline of leveraged finance commitments and loans. Credit and distressed trading revenues also decreased significantly in the 2007 quarter, as credit spreads widened dramatically as investors were concerned with the higher probability of corporate defaults. However, interest rate derivatives and foreign exchange revenues increased during the 2007 quarter as higher volatility in the global interest rate markets served to increase customer volumes. Institutional equities net revenues increased to record levels in the 2007 quarter from the 2006 quarter. Revenues from our international equity sales and trading increased, reflecting continued strength in both European and Asian equities. Additionally, revenues from domestic equity sales rose due to higher average trading volumes on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and market share gains. Structured equity net revenues also increased during the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter reflecting gains on the Company's structured notes portfolio. Partially offsetting these increases was a decrease in the risk arbitrage area, reflecting unfavorable market conditions. Revenues from specialist activities decreased in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter resulting from the implementation of the NYSE Hybrid system. Energy related revenues also decreased in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter as the 2006 quarter included significant gains from the monetization of certain energy properties. Investment banking net revenues decreased in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter, reflecting less favorable market conditions for fixed income underwriting, resulting in decreased revenues from high yield and high grade underwriting revenues. Largely offsetting these decreases in fixed income underwriting revenues was an increase in equity underwriting revenues, reflecting a healthy U.S. equity environment. Merchant banking revenues decreased, reflecting net losses on the Company's portfolio of investments in the 2007 quarter compared with net gains in the 2006 quarter.

35

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Global Clearing Services net revenues increased to record levels in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter due to higher net interest revenues and commission revenues. Prime broker margin debt and customer short balances

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

reached record levels during the 2007 quarter.

Wealth Management net revenues decreased during the 2007 quarter driven by a decrease in asset management net revenues, partially offset by an increase in Private Client Services ("PCS") net revenues. The 2007 quarter includes approximately \$200 million of losses associated with the failure of the Bear Stearns Asset Management ("BSAM")-managed high grade funds. PCS revenues increased on growth in fee-based assets.

From a geographical perspective, net revenues from our international activities increased by 98.5% to \$536.9 million.

Business Environment

Fiscal 2007 Quarter

The business environment during the Company's third fiscal quarter ended August 31, 2007 was characterized by a global credit crisis resulting primarily from concerns about sub-prime mortgages which created extremely difficult market conditions. These conditions resulted in greater volatility, less liquidity, widening credit spreads and a lack of price transparency. The unemployment rate was at 4.6% at the end of August 2007, reflecting a continued strong labor market. The Federal Reserve Board (the "Fed") met twice during the August 2007 quarter leaving the federal funds rate unchanged at 5.25%. However, the Fed acknowledged in its August 7th meeting that strains in the financial markets posed additional downside risks to economic growth.

Each of the major U.S. equity indices decreased during the 2007 quarter. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index ("S&P 500"), the Dow Jones Industrial Average ("DJIA"), and the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations ("NASDAQ") Composite Index ("NASDAQ Composite Index") decreased 3.7%, 2.0% and 0.3%, respectively, during the 2007 quarter. Average daily trading volume on the NYSE increased 8.6% while average daily trading volume on the NASDAQ increased 21.0% in the 2007 quarter, compared to the 2006 quarter. Industry-wide U.S.-announced M&A volumes increased 45.0% while industry-wide U.S.-completed M&A volumes increased 60.7% compared to the third quarter of 2006. Total equity issuance volumes increased 63.2% while initial public offering ("IPO") volumes increased 181.6% compared to the 2006 quarter.

Fixed income activity was adversely affected by the global credit crisis and significantly weaker U.S. mortgage markets during the 2007 quarter. Long-term interest rates, as measured by the 10-year Treasury bond, decreased during the 2007 quarter. The 10-year Treasury bond yield was 4.53% at the end of the 2007 quarter, down from 4.89% at the beginning of the quarter. Stricter underwriting standards resulted in a decrease in the level of non-agency loan originations. Overall U.S. mortgage-backed securities new issue volume increased 7.2% during the 2007 quarter compared with the results achieved in the 2006 quarter. Agency collateralized mortgage obligation ("CMO") security volumes increased approximately 8.3% industry-wide during the 2007 quarter from the levels reached in the 2006 quarter, while non-agency mortgage-backed origination volumes decreased approximately 19.4% industry-wide compared to the 2006 quarter.

Fiscal 2006 Quarter

The business environment during the third quarter ended August 31, 2006 was generally favorable due to a combination of factors including an expanding U.S. economy, low interest rates and low unemployment. The Fed met twice during the quarter and raised the federal funds rate from 5.00% to 5.25% during its first meeting and kept the federal funds rate unchanged at 5.25% at its second meeting citing moderating economic growth from its strong pace earlier in the year, a gradual cooling of the housing market and higher energy prices. In August 2006, the unemployment rate was at 4.7%, up from 4.6% at the end of the second

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

quarter. Oil prices declined slightly to close at \$70 a barrel at the end of August, down 1.4% from the prior quarter's close of \$71 a barrel.

The major indices were all up during the third quarter of 2006. The DJIA, the NASDAQ Composite Index and the S&P 500 increased 1.9%, 0.2% and 2.7%, respectively. Average daily trading volume on the NASDAQ and NYSE increased 14.9% and 12.8%, respectively, in the 2006 quarter, compared to the 2005 quarter. Industry-wide U.S. announced M&A volumes increased 25.3% while industry-wide US-completed M&A volumes decreased 19.2% compared to the comparable prior year

36

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

quarter. Total equity issuance volumes decreased 27.0% industry-wide while IPO volumes decreased 55.4% industry-wide compared to the 2005 quarter.

Fixed income activity continued to be robust during the 2006 quarter compared with the comparable prior year quarter despite the increase in short-term interest rates and a flattening yield curve. Long-term interest rates, as measured by the 10-year Treasury bond, decreased during the 2006 quarter. The 10-year Treasury bond yield decreased to 4.73% at the end of the 2006 quarter from 5.11% at the beginning of the quarter. The housing market experienced declines in refinancing and purchasing levels during the 2006 quarter. Overall, U.S. mortgage-backed securities new issue volume decreased 3.9% industry-wide during the 2006 quarter compared with the 2005 quarter. Agency CMO volumes increased 8.2%, while non-agency mortgage-backed and commercial mortgage-backed origination volumes decreased approximately 0.1% and 32.4%, respectively, industry-wide during the 2006 quarter from the levels reached in the 2005 quarter.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Firmwide Results

The following table sets forth an overview of the Company's financial results:

(in thousands, except per share amounts, pre-tax profit margin and return on average common equity)	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% (Decrease)	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006
Revenues, net of interest expense	\$ 1,330,749	\$2,129,135	(37.5%)	\$ 6,324,497	\$ 6,800,000
Income before provision for income taxes	\$ 174,826	\$ 667,238	(73.8%)	\$ 1,563,689	\$ 2,200,000
Net income	\$ 171,298	\$ 437,556	(60.9%)	\$ 1,086,763	\$ 1,400,000
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.16	\$ 3.02	(61.6%)	\$ 7.54	\$ 19.00
Pre-tax profit margin	13.1%	31.3%		24.7%	
Return on average common equity (annualized)	5.3%	15.8%		11.7%	

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The results for the nine months ended 2007 includes a non-cash charge of \$227.5 million or \$0.88 per share (diluted), related to the write-off of intangible assets associated with our NYSE specialist activities.

The Company's commission revenues by reporting category were as follows:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			Nine Months	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006
Institutional	\$ 254,538	\$ 193,203	31.7%	\$ 660,109	\$ 587,200
Clearance	61,991	54,882	13.0%	172,450	176,000
Retail	37,801	31,948	18.3%	108,070	107,500
Total commissions	\$ 354,330	\$ 280,033	26.5%	\$ 940,629	\$ 871,000

Institutional commissions increased 31.7% to \$254.5 million for the 2007 quarter from \$193.2 million for the comparable prior year quarter due to higher average trading volumes on both the NASDAQ and the NYSE. Clearance commissions increased 13.0% to \$62.0 million for the 2007 quarter from \$54.9 million for the comparable prior year quarter due to higher average trading volumes from prime broker and fully-disclosed clients. Retail commissions were \$37.8 million in the 2007 quarter, up from \$31.9 million in the 2006 quarter due to higher average trading volumes.

Institutional commissions increased 12.4% to \$660.1 million for the 2007 period from \$587.2 million for the comparable prior year period due to an increase in average trading volumes on the NASDAQ compared with the 2006 period. Clearance commissions decreased 2.4% to \$172.5 million for the 2007 period from \$176.7 million for the comparable prior year period reflecting lower average rates from prime brokerage clients and lower average trading volumes from fully-disclosed clients. Retail commissions increased by 0.5% to \$108.1 million in the 2007 period from \$107.5 million in the comparable prior year period.

37

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company's principal transactions revenues by reporting category were as follows:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			Nine Months	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase (Decrease)	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006
Fixed income	\$ (179,123)	\$ 789,335	nm	\$ 1,601,444	\$ 2,600,000
Equities	479,798	304,662	57.5%	1,264,572	1,000,000
Total principal transactions	\$ 300,675	\$1,093,997	(72.5%)	\$ 2,866,016	\$ 3,700,000

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

nm - not meaningful

Fixed income revenues decreased to a loss of \$179.1 million for the 2007 quarter from \$789.3 million for the 2006 quarter, reflecting a loss in mortgage-related revenues due to inventory markdowns, partially offset by gains on various cash and derivative hedges. In addition, origination volumes were lower in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter. Also contributing to the decline in fixed income net revenues were losses experienced in the leveraged finance area resulting from losses taken on the Company's leveraged finance pipeline as well as losses associated with the BSAM-managed high grade funds. Revenues derived from equities activities increased 57.5% to \$479.8 million during the 2007 quarter from \$304.7 million in the 2006 quarter primarily due to an increase in revenues from institutional equity sales and trading and structured equity products, partially offset by decreases in risk arbitrage, NYSE specialist and energy-related revenues.

Fixed income revenues decreased 39.7% to \$1.60 billion for the year to date 2007 period from \$2.66 billion for the comparable prior year period. Mortgage-related revenues decreased when compared to the 2006 period due to the more challenging U.S. mortgage market and the inventory markdowns occurring in the 2007 period. Leveraged finance revenues also decreased during the 2007 period when compared to the 2006 period primarily due to the valuation adjustments taken in the third quarter of 2007. Revenues derived from equities activities increased 17.0% to \$1.26 billion during the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$1.08 billion in the 2006 period due to an increase in net revenues from international equity sales and trading, structured equity products and risk arbitrage increased, partially offset by decreases in NYSE specialist and energy-related activities.

The Company's investment banking revenues by reporting category were as follows:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			Nine Months	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase (Decrease)	August 31, 2007	August 2006
Underwriting	\$ 98,834	\$ 86,280	14.6%	\$ 416,450	\$ 300,000
Advisory and other fees	207,598	187,334	10.8%	592,093	500,000
Merchant banking	(29,386)	9,893	nm	22,953	200,000
Total investment banking	\$ 277,046	\$ 283,507	(2.3%)	\$ 1,031,496	\$ 900,000

nm - not meaningful

Equity underwriting revenues increased for the 2007 quarter, due to higher new issue volumes, partially offset by decreased revenues from high yield and high grade underwriting, due to less favorable market conditions. Advisory and other fees increased on higher levels of M&A fees and mortgage servicing fees. Merchant banking revenues decreased in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter, as losses offset gains in the Company's portfolio of investments during the 2007 quarter.

Investment banking revenues increased 9.8% to \$1.03 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$939.5 million for the 2006 period, primarily due to higher equity underwriting revenues resulting from improved global equity market

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

conditions. Advisory and other fees increased in the 2007 period compared with the 2006 period reflecting an improved M&A environment and an increase in mortgage servicing fees. Merchant banking revenues decreased in the 2007 period due to lower gains from the Company's portfolio of investments and lower performance fees on managed merchant banking funds.

Net interest revenues (interest and dividends revenue less interest expense) increased 13.6% to \$359.5 million for the 2007 quarter from \$316.4 million for the 2006 quarter and increased 16.7% to \$1.04 billion for the nine months ended August 31,

38

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

2007 from \$893.8 million for the 2006 period. The increase in net interest revenues was primarily attributable to higher average customer margin debt balances and customer short balances.

Asset management and other income revenues decreased 74.7% to \$39.2 million for the 2007 quarter from \$155.2 million for the 2006 quarter primarily due to losses associated with the BSAM-managed high-grade funds. Asset management and other income revenues increased 19.1% to \$443.4 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$372.2 million for the 2006 period. These increases reflect growth in management fees on higher levels of traditional and alternative assets under management and growth in performance fees. PCS net revenues also increased due to higher levels of fee-based assets.

Non-Interest Expenses

The Company's non-interest expenses were as follows:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase (Decrease)	August 31, 2007
Employee compensation and benefits	\$ 663,506	\$1,024,748	(35.3%)	\$ 3,099,003
Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees	79,515	58,621	35.6%	199,507
Communications and technology	150,833	126,938	18.8%	421,591
Occupancy	69,456	52,976	31.1%	190,071
Advertising and market development	49,408	38,243	29.2%	135,237
Professional fees	91,018	78,110	16.5%	252,181
Impairment of goodwill and specialist rights	-	-	nm	227,457
Other expenses	52,187	82,261	(36.6%)	235,761
Total non-interest expenses	\$ 1,155,923	\$1,461,897	(20.9%)	\$ 4,760,808

nm - not meaningful

Employee compensation and benefits includes the cost of salaries, benefits and incentive compensation, including Capital Accumulation Plan ("CAP Plan") units, restricted stock units and option awards. Employee compensation and benefits decreased 35.3% to \$663.5 million for the 2007 quarter from \$1.02 billion for

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

the 2006 quarter, and decreased 5.9% to \$3.10 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$3.29 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2006, primarily due to lower compensation associated with the decrease in net revenues. Employee compensation and benefits as a percentage of net revenues increased to 49.9% for the 2007 quarter from 48.1% for the 2006 quarter, and increased to 49.0% for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from 48.3% for the nine months ended August 31, 2006. Full-time employees increased to 15,516 at August 31, 2007 from 13,134 at August 31, 2006. The growth in headcount is primarily due to increased business activities and growth initiatives, both domestically and internationally.

Non-compensation expenses increased 12.6% to \$492.4 million for the 2007 quarter from \$437.1 million for the 2006 quarter and increased 31.0% to \$1.66 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$1.27 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2006, primarily related to increased transaction related costs associated with higher business volumes and an increase in worldwide employee headcount. Non-compensation expenses as a percentage of net revenues increased to 37.0% for the 2007 quarter compared with 20.5% for the 2006 quarter, and increased to 26.3% for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 compared with 18.6% for the nine months ended August 31, 2006. Included in the 2007 nine month results was a non-cash charge of \$227.5 million related to the write-off of intangible assets, representing goodwill and specialist rights, associated with the Company's NYSE specialist activities. Non-compensation expenses, excluding the non-cash charge, were \$1.43 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2007. Floor brokerage, exchange and clearance fees increased 35.6% and 18.4% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, compared with the corresponding prior year periods, due to increased volumes and clearing house charges attributable to international growth of the Company. Communications and technology costs increased 18.8% and 20.8% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, compared with the corresponding prior year periods, as increased head-count resulted in higher voice and market data-related costs as well as higher information technology consulting expenses. Occupancy costs increased 31.1% and 32.9% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, compared with the corresponding prior year periods, reflecting additional office space requirements and higher leasing costs associated with the Company's headquarters building at 383 Madison Avenue and other office locations in New York City. Advertising and

39

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

market development costs increased 29.2% and 25.2% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, compared with the corresponding prior year periods, due to higher levels of client and deal related expenses. Professional fees increased 16.5% and 27.7% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, compared with the corresponding prior year periods, due to higher levels of non-information technology consulting fees and employment agency fees. Other expenses decreased 36.6% and 22.0% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, compared with the corresponding prior year periods. CAP Plan related costs decreased 87.3% to \$3.8 million for the 2007 quarter from \$29.5 million in the 2006 quarter, and decreased 28.7% to \$77.0 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$108.0 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2006, reflecting the lower level of earnings. Pre-tax profit margin was 13.1% and 24.7% for the three and nine months ended August 31, 2007, respectively, versus 31.3% and 33.1% for the corresponding prior year periods. Excluding the \$227.5 million non-cash charge associated with the write-off of intangible assets, pre-tax profit margin was 28.2% for the nine-months ended August 31, 2007.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Company's effective tax rate decreased to 2.0% for the 2007 quarter from 34.4% for the 2006 quarter and decreased from 34.7% in the May 2007 quarter reflecting the significant decline in pre-tax earnings and relatively fixed level of tax preference items. The Company's effective tax rate for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 decreased to 30.5% from 33.8% in the comparable prior year period.

Business Segments

The remainder of "Results of Operations" is presented on a business segment basis. The Company's three business segments--Capital Markets, Global Clearing Services and Wealth Management--are analyzed separately due to the distinct nature of the products they provide and the clients they serve. Certain Capital Markets products are distributed by the Wealth Management and Global Clearing Services distribution networks, with the related revenues of such intersegment services allocated to the respective segments. See Note 13, "Segment Data" in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for complete segment information.

Capital Markets

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase (Decrease)	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006

Net revenues					
Institutional equities	\$ 718,994	\$ 471,006	52.7%	\$ 1,774,332	\$ 1,530,000
Fixed income	117,563	944,974	(87.6%)	2,229,202	3,070,000
Investment banking	211,227	231,501	(8.8%)	871,197	800,000

Total net revenues	\$ 1,047,784	\$ 1,647,481	(36.4%)	\$ 4,874,731	\$ 5,410,000
Pre-tax income	\$ 241,931	\$ 580,234	(58.3%)	\$ 1,355,169	\$ 1,990,000

Note: Certain prior period items have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

The Capital Markets segment comprises institutional equities, fixed income and investment banking. The Capital Markets segment operates as a single integrated unit that provides the sales, trading and origination effort for various fixed income, equity and advisory products and services to institutional and corporate clients.

Institutional equities consists of sales, trading and research, in areas such as domestic and international equities, block trading, over-the-counter equities, equity derivatives, energy and commodity activities, risk and convertible arbitrage and specialist activities on the NYSE, American Stock Exchange ("AMEX") and International Securities Exchange ("ISE"). Fixed income includes sales, trading, origination and research provided to institutional clients across a variety of products such as mortgage- and asset-backed securities, corporate and government bonds, municipal bonds, high yield products, including bank and bridge loans, foreign exchange and interest rate and credit derivatives. Investment banking provides services in capital raising, strategic advice, mergers and acquisitions and merchant banking. Capital raising encompasses the Company's underwriting of equity, investment grade, municipal and high yield debt products.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Net revenues for Capital Markets decreased 36.4% to \$1.05 billion for the 2007 quarter compared with \$1.65 billion for the 2006 quarter.

40

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Institutional equities net revenues for the 2007 quarter increased 52.7% to \$719.0 million from \$471.0 million for the comparable prior year quarter. International equity sales and trading revenues increased significantly, representing continued strength in our European and Asian equities on market share gains and increased customer volumes. Domestic equity sales revenues also increased on higher average trading volumes on the NYSE and market share gains. Additionally, structured equity products net revenues increased significantly in the 2007 quarter from the comparable prior year quarter primarily reflecting gains from the Company's structured notes portfolio. During the 2007 quarter, significant increases in the Company's credit spreads caused short positions to decline in value which resulted in net gains in the structured notes portfolio. Partially offsetting these increases were decreases in revenues from the risk arbitrage area, reflecting a decline in announced M&A activity. NYSE specialist activities also decreased significantly compared to the 2006 quarter due to the implementation of the NYSE Hybrid system. Energy related revenues decreased as the 2006 quarter included significant gains from the sale of certain commodity assets.

Fixed income net revenues decreased 87.6% to \$117.6 million for the 2007 quarter from \$945.0 million for the comparable prior year quarter. The Company recognized approximately \$700 million in net inventory markdowns during the 2007 quarter related to losses in the residential mortgage and leveraged finance areas. Mortgage origination and trading volumes declined significantly in the 2007 quarter compared with the 2006 quarter. The inability to securitize and distribute mortgage assets served to exacerbate the impact of inventory markdowns on mortgage revenues. The repricing of credit risk by investors in the non-investment grade corporate debt market resulted in valuation adjustments taken on the Company's leveraged lending commitments. Distressed trading and credit trading revenues also decreased, as credit spreads widened during the 2007 quarter. Partially offsetting these decreases were record revenues from interest rates products, as higher volatility increased customer activity compared with the 2006 quarter.

Investment banking revenues decreased 8.8% to \$211.2 million for the 2007 quarter from \$231.5 million for the 2006 quarter. Underwriting revenues decreased 0.9% to \$91.9 million for the 2007 quarter from \$92.7 million for the 2006 quarter. Equity underwriting revenues increased, reflecting higher volumes of equity follow-on and convertible new issue offerings. These increases were offset by decreases in high grade and high yield underwriting, reflecting challenging market conditions. Advisory and other fees for the 2007 quarter increased 15.4% to \$148.7 million from \$128.9 million for the prior year quarter reflecting increased M&A fees due to an increase in customer activity. Merchant banking revenues decreased to a loss of \$29.4 million in the 2007 quarter from \$9.9 million during the 2006 quarter, as losses offset gains in the Company's portfolio of investments during the 2007 quarter.

Net revenues for Capital Markets decreased 9.9% to \$4.87 billion for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 compared to \$5.41 billion for the 2006 period.

Institutional equities net revenues for the 2007 period increased by 15.9% to \$1.77 billion from the comparable prior year period. Revenues from the Company's structured equity products increased reflecting gains on the Company's

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

structured notes portfolio. In addition, revenues from the Company's international equity sales and trading area increased, reflecting strength in European and Asian equities. The Company's risk arbitrage revenues also increased, reflecting higher levels of global announced M&A volumes. Partially offsetting these increases were decreases in revenues from the Company's specialist activities, due to the implementation of the NYSE Hybrid system. Energy related revenues also decreased in the 2007 period as the 2006 period included significant gains from the sale of certain commodity assets.

Fixed income net revenues decreased 27.5% to \$2.23 billion for the 2007 period from \$3.07 billion for the comparable prior year period. Mortgage-related revenues decreased significantly in the 2007 period, when compared to the prior year period due to weaker U.S. mortgage markets and challenges associated with the sub-prime mortgage sector. Dramatic spread widening in the August 2007 quarter served to reduce inventory values and activity levels. Leveraged finance revenues also decreased significantly during the 2007 period compared to the 2006 period, reflecting the challenging market conditions in the August 2007 quarter which resulted in market value adjustments on the Company's leveraged lending commitments. Partially offsetting these decreases was an increase in revenues from the Company's interest rates products, as global volatility and higher customer volumes served to increase interest rate product net revenues compared to the prior year period.

Investment banking revenues increased 8.2% to \$871.2 million for the 2007 period from \$805.3 million for the 2006 period. Underwriting revenues increased 21.6% to \$459.8 million for the 2007 period from \$378.2 million for the corresponding prior year period, as equity underwriting revenues increased, reflecting higher volumes of lead and co-managed and follow-on offerings as a result of improved global equity market conditions. Advisory and other fees for the 2007 period increased 10.9% to \$388.5 million from \$350.3 million for the 2006 period, reflecting an increase in M&A fees due to increased customer activity. Merchant banking revenues decreased to \$22.9 million in the 2007 period from \$76.8 million during the

41

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

2006 period, reflecting lower gains on the Company's portfolio of investments and lower performance fees on managed merchant banking funds.

Global Clearing Services

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			Nine Mon	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase	August 31, 2007	August 3 2006
Net revenues	\$ 331,937	\$ 255,407	30.0%	\$ 924,280	\$ 806
Pre-tax income	\$ 153,412	\$ 95,258	61.0%	\$ 420,963	\$ 356

Note: Certain prior period items have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Global Clearing Services segment provides execution, clearing, margin lending and securities borrowing to facilitate customer short sales to clearing clients worldwide. Prime brokerage clients include hedge funds and clients of money managers, short sellers, arbitrageurs and other professional investors. Fully disclosed clients engage in either the retail or institutional brokerage business. At August 31, 2007 and 2006, the Company held approximately \$283.8 billion and \$274.4 billion, respectively, in equity in Global Clearing Services client accounts.

Net revenues for Global Clearing Services increased 30.0% to \$331.9 million for the 2007 quarter from \$255.4 million in the 2006 quarter and increased 14.7% to \$924.3 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$806.0 million in the 2006 period. Net interest revenues increased 34.7% to \$259.0 million for the 2007 quarter from \$192.3 million for the 2006 quarter and increased 20.0% to \$718.0 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$598.4 million for the prior year period, on higher average customer margin debt balances and customer short balances. Commissions and other revenues increased 15.5% to \$72.9 million for the 2007 quarter from \$63.1 million for the 2006 quarter reflecting higher trading volumes from both prime brokerage and fully-disclosed clients. Commissions and other revenues slightly decreased 0.7% to \$206.2 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$207.6 million for the 2006 period, reflecting lower average rates from prime brokerage clients as well as lower trading volumes from fully-disclosed clients. Pre-tax income increased 61.0% to \$153.4 million for the 2007 quarter from \$95.3 million for the 2006 quarter and increased 18.1% to \$421.0 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$356.5 million for the 2006 period. Pre-tax profit margin was 46.2% for the 2007 quarter compared with 37.3% for the 2006 quarter and 45.5% for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 compared with 44.2% for the 2006 period.

The following table presents the Company's interest-bearing balances for the fiscal periods ended:

(in billions)	Three Months ended		Nine Months ended	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	August 31, 2007	August 2006
Margin debt balances, average for period	\$ 102.2	\$ 68.8	\$ 93.0	\$ 67.8
Margin debt balances, at period end	85.2	68.9	85.2	68.9
Customer short balances, average for period	102.2	82.1	99.3	80.0
Customer short balances, at period end	81.9	85.6	81.9	85.6
Securities borrowed, average for period	69.7	54.7	65.4	54.7
Securities borrowed, at period end	59.5	53.1	59.5	53.1
Free credit balances, average for period	38.4	35.9	36.7	32.0
Free credit balances, at period end	35.8	36.5	35.8	36.5
Equity held in client accounts, at period end	283.8	274.4	283.8	274.4

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended	
	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006	% Increase (Decrease)	August 31, 2007	August 31, 2006
Private client services revenues	\$ 168,486	\$ 149,189	12.9%	\$ 519,157	\$ 468,157
Revenue transferred to Capital Markets segment	(20,986)	(21,100)	(0.5%)	(78,238)	(78,238)
Private client services net revenues	147,500	128,089	15.2%	440,919	389,919
Asset management	(185,812)	104,587	nm	117,461	222,727
Total net revenues	\$ (38,312)	\$ 232,676	nm	\$ 558,380	\$ 612,646
Pre-tax income	\$ (226,511)	\$ 18,018	nm	\$ (126,293)	\$ 18,018

nm - not meaningful

Note: Certain prior period items have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation.

The Wealth Management segment is composed of the PCS and asset management areas. PCS provides high-net-worth individuals with an institutional level of investment service, including access to the Company's resources and professionals. At August 31, 2007, PCS had approximately 500 account executives in its principal office, six regional offices and two international offices. Asset management manages equity, fixed income and alternative assets for corporate pension plans, public systems, endowments, foundations, multi-employer plans, insurance companies, corporations, families and high-net-worth individuals in the United States and abroad.

Net revenues for Wealth Management decreased to a loss of \$38.3 million for the 2007 quarter from \$232.7 million for the 2006 quarter and decreased 8.5% to \$558.4 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$610.4 million for the 2006 period. Asset management revenues had a loss of \$185.8 million for the 2007 quarter compared to revenues of \$104.6 million for the 2006 quarter and decreased 47.2% to \$117.5 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$222.7 million for the 2006 period. These results were due to problems associated with the Bear Stearns High-Grade Structured Credit Strategies Fund ("High-Grade Fund") and the Bear Stearns High-Grade Structured Credit Strategies Enhanced Leveraged Fund (collectively the "Funds"). Included in the 2007 quarter results are losses of approximately \$200 million representing the write-off of the Company's investment and fees receivable from the Funds, losses from the closure of the \$1.6 billion secured financing agreement provided to the High-Grade Fund and other directly related expenses. In addition, weaker operating performances from the Company's alternative investment products resulted in the reversal of previously accrued performance fees and losses on various hedge fund investments. Excluding the impact of losses in the Funds, asset management revenues were up 28.6% to \$286.3 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 compared with the 2006 period, reflecting growth in both management and performance fees. PCS net revenues increased 15.2% to \$147.5 million for the 2007 quarter from \$128.1 million for the 2006 quarter and increased 13.7% to \$440.9 million for the nine months ended August 31, 2007 from \$387.8 million for the 2006 period, reflecting higher levels of fee-based income and commissions.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

While asset management revenues declined significantly during the 2007 quarter, reflecting losses associated with the Funds, total assets under management were \$57.8 billion at August 31, 2007, reflecting a 15.1% increase from \$50.2 billion in assets under management at August 31, 2006. The increase in assets under management is due to the growth in traditional equity assets and alternative products, attributable to both market appreciation and net inflows. Assets under management at August 31, 2007 include \$8.9 billion of assets from alternative investment products, an increase from \$7.4 billion at August 31, 2006.

43

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Financial Leverage

Asset Composition

The Company's actual level of capital, capital requirements and thereby the level of financial leverage, is a function of numerous variables, including asset composition, rating agency/creditor perception, business prospects, regulatory requirements, balance sheet liquidity, cost/availability of capital and risk of loss. The Company consistently maintains a highly liquid balance sheet, with the vast majority of the Company's assets consisting of cash, marketable securities inventories and collateralized receivables arising from customer-related and proprietary securities transactions.

Collateralized receivables consist of resale agreements secured predominantly by U.S. government and agency securities, customer margin loans and securities borrowed, which are typically secured by marketable corporate debt and equity securities. The nature of the Company's business as a securities dealer requires it to carry significant levels of securities inventories to meet its customer and proprietary trading needs. Additionally, the Company's role as a financial intermediary for customer activities, which it conducts on a principal basis, together with its customer-related activities in its clearance business, results in significant levels of customer-related balances, including customer margin debt, securities borrowed and reverse repurchase activity. The Company's total assets and financial leverage can and do fluctuate, depending largely on economic and market conditions, volume of activity and customer demand.

The Company's total assets at August 31, 2007 increased to \$397.1 billion from \$350.4 billion at November 30, 2006. The increase was primarily attributable to increases in financial instruments owned, assets of variable interest entities and mortgage loan special purpose entities, cash and cash equivalents, and customer receivables partially offset by a decrease in securities purchased under agreements to resell. The Company's total capital base, which consists of long-term debt, preferred equity issued by subsidiaries and total stockholders' equity, increased to \$78.2 billion at August 31, 2007 from \$66.7 billion at November 30, 2006. This change was primarily due to a net increase in long-term debt.

The Company's total capital base as of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006 was as follows:

(in millions)	August 31, 2007	November 30, 2006
---------------	--------------------	----------------------

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Long-term borrowings:		
Senior debt	\$ 63,888.5	\$ 53,307.4
Subordinated debt (1)	1,262.5	1,262.5

Total long-term borrowings	\$ 65,151.0	\$ 54,569.9
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stockholders' equity	\$ 351.6	\$ 359.2
Common stockholders' equity	12,648.9	11,770.2

Total stockholders' equity	\$ 13,000.5	\$ 12,129.4

Total capital	\$ 78,151.5	\$ 66,699.3
=====		

(1) Includes \$1.0 billion in subordinated debt issued by the Company and \$262.5 million in junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures ("Debentures") issued by the Company and held by Bear Stearns Capital Trust III ("Capital Trust III") at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006.

The amount of long-term debt as well as total capital that the Company maintains is driven by a number of factors, with particular focus on asset composition. The Company's ability to support increases in total assets is a function of its ability to obtain short-term secured and unsecured funding, as well as its access to longer-term sources of capital (i.e., long-term debt and equity). The Company regularly measures and monitors its total capital requirements, which are primarily a function of the self-funding ability of its assets. The equity portion of total capital is primarily a function of on- and off-balance-sheet risks (i.e., market, credit and liquidity) and regulatory capital requirements. As such, the liquidity and risk characteristics of assets being held are critical determinants of both total capital and the equity portion thereof, thus significantly influencing the amount of leverage that the Company can employ.

44

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Given the nature of the Company's market-making and customer-financing activity, the overall size of the balance sheet fluctuates from time to time. The Company's total assets at each quarter end are typically lower than would be observed on an average basis. At the end of each quarter, the Company typically uses excess cash to finance high-quality, highly liquid securities inventory that otherwise would be funded via the repurchase agreement market. In addition, the Company reduces its matched book repurchase and reverse repurchase activities at quarter end. Finally, the Company may reduce the aggregate level of inventories through ordinary course, open market activities in the most liquid portions of the balance sheet, which are principally U.S. government and agency securities and agency mortgage pass-through securities. At August 31, 2007, total assets of \$397.1 billion were approximately 9.1% lower than the average of the month-end balances observed over the trailing 12-month period, while total assets at November 30, 2006 were approximately 0.5% higher than the average of the month-end balances over the trailing 12-months prior. Despite reduced total assets at each quarter end, the Company's overall market, credit and liquidity risk profile does not change materially, since the reduction in asset balances is predominantly in highly liquid, short-term instruments that are financed on a secured basis. This periodic reduction verifies the inherently liquid nature of the balance sheet and provides consistency with respect to creditor constituents' evaluation of the Company's financial condition.

45

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Leverage Ratios

Balance sheet leverage measures are one approach to assessing the capital adequacy of a securities firm, such as the Company. Gross leverage equals total assets divided by stockholders' equity, inclusive of preferred and trust preferred equity. The Company views its trust preferred equity as a component of its equity capital base given the equity-like characteristics of the securities. The Company also receives rating agency equity credit for these securities. Net adjusted leverage equals net adjusted assets divided by tangible equity capital, which excludes goodwill and intangible assets from both the numerator and the denominator, as equity used to support goodwill and intangible assets is not available to support the balance of the Company's net assets. With respect to a comparative measure of financial risk and capital adequacy, the Company believes that the low-risk nature of the items excluded in deriving net adjusted assets (see table) renders net adjusted leverage as the more relevant measure.

(in millions, except ratios)	August 31, 2007	November 30, 2006
<hr/>		
Total assets	\$ 397,091	\$ 350,433
Deduct:		
Cash and securities deposited with clearing organizations or segregated in compliance with federal regulations	13,460	8,804
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	32,144	38,838
Securities received as collateral	18,301	19,648
Securities borrowed	80,039	80,523
Receivables from customers	34,369	29,482
Assets of variable interest entities and Mortgage loan special purpose entities, net	38,643	29,080
Goodwill & intangible assets	91	383
Subtotal	180,044	143,675
<hr/>		
Add:		
Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased	47,606	42,256
Deduct:		
Derivative financial instruments	14,207	11,865
Net adjusted assets	\$ 213,443	\$ 174,066
<hr/>		
Stockholders' equity		
Common equity	\$ 12,648	\$ 11,770
Preferred stock	352	359
Stock-based compensation	-	816
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 13,000	\$ 12,945
<hr/>		
Add:		
Trust preferred equity	263	263

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Subtotal - leverage equity	13,263	13,208
Deduct:		
Goodwill & intangible assets	91	383
Tangible equity capital	\$ 13,172	12,825
Gross leverage	29.9	26.5
Net adjusted leverage	16.2	13.6

(1) Represents stock-based compensation associated with fiscal 2006 awards that was reflected in equity as of the grant date in December 2006, in accordance with SFAS No. 123(R), "Share-based Payment." Excluding this adjustment for stock-based compensation, gross leverage and net adjusted leverage at November 30, 2006 would have been 28.3 and 14.5, respectively.

46

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Funding Strategy & Liquidity Risk Management

General Funding Strategy

Liquidity is extraordinarily important for financial services firms in general and for securities firms such as the Company in particular, given their reliance on market confidence. The Company's overall objective and general funding strategy seeks to ensure liquidity and diversity of funding sources to meet the Company's financing needs at all times and under all market environments. In financing its balance sheet, the Company attempts to maximize its use of secured funding. Short-term sources of cash consist principally of collateralized borrowings, including repurchase transactions, sell/buy arrangements, securities lending arrangements and customer short balances. Short-term unsecured funding sources expose the Company to rollover risk, as providers of credit are not obligated to refinance the instruments at maturity. For this reason, the Company seeks to prudently manage its reliance on short-term unsecured borrowings by maintaining an adequate total capital base in combination with extensive use of secured funding and the maintenance of a liquidity pool at the parent company. In addition to this strategy, the Company places emphasis on diversification by product, geography, maturity and instrument in order to further ensure prudent, moderate usage of more credit-sensitive, potentially less stable, funding. Short-term unsecured funding sources include commercial paper, medium-term notes and bank borrowings, which generally have maturities ranging from overnight to one year. The Company views its secured funding as inherently less credit sensitive and therefore a more stable source of funding due to the collateralized nature of the borrowing.

In addition to short-term funding sources, the Company utilizes equity and long-term debt, including floating- and fixed-rate notes, as longer-term sources of unsecured financing. The Company regularly monitors and analyzes the size, composition and liquidity characteristics of its asset base in the context of each asset's ability to be used to obtain secured financing. This analysis helps the Company in determining its aggregate need for longer-term funding sources

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

(i.e., long-term debt and equity). The Company views long-term debt as a stable source of funding, which effectively strengthens its overall liquidity profile and mitigates liquidity risk.

Alternative Funding Strategy

The Company maintains an alternative funding strategy focused on the liquidity and self-funding ability of the underlying assets. The objective of this strategy is to maintain sufficient cash capital (i.e., equity plus long-term debt maturing in more than 12 months) and funding sources to enable the Company to refinance short-term, unsecured borrowings with fully secured borrowings. As such, the Company is not reliant upon nor does it contemplate forced balance sheet reduction to endure a period of constrained funding availability. This underlying approach is supported by maintenance of a formal contingency funding plan, which includes a detailed delegation of authority and precise action steps for managing an event-driven liquidity crisis. The plan identifies the crisis management team, details an effective internal and external communication strategy, and facilitates the greater information flow required to effect a rapid and efficient transition to a secured funding environment.

As it relates to the alternative funding strategy discussed above, the Company prepares an analysis that focuses on a 12-month time period and assumes that the Company does not liquidate assets and cannot issue any new unsecured debt, including commercial paper. Under these assumptions, the Company monitors its cash position, Parent Company Liquidity Pool and the borrowing value of unencumbered, unhyponthecated financial instruments in relation to its unsecured debt maturing over the next 12 months, striving to maintain the ratio of liquidity sources to maturing debt at 110% or greater. Also within this strategy, the Company seeks to maintain cash capital in excess of that portion of its assets that cannot be funded on a secured basis (i.e., positive net cash capital). These two measures, liquidity ratio and net cash capital, are complementary and constitute the core elements of the Company's alternative funding strategy and, consequently, its approach to funding and liquidity risk management.

The borrowing value advance rates used in the Company's liquidity ratio calculation and the haircuts incorporated in the cash capital model are symmetrical. These advance rates are considered readily available, even in a stress environment. In the vast majority of circumstances/asset classes, advance rates are derived from committed secured bank facilities, whereby a bank or group of banks are contractually obligated to lend to the Company at a pre-specified advance rate on specific types of collateral regardless of "market environment." As such, the advance rates/haircuts in the alternative liquidity models are typically worse than those the Company realizes in normalized repo and secured lending markets. The advance rates in the liquidity ratio reflect what can be reliably realized in a stressed liquidity environment. The haircuts used in the cash capital model are consistent with the advance rates used in the liquidity ratio in that the haircut is equal to one minus the advance rate.

47

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

As of August 31, 2007, the market value of eligible unencumbered, unhyponthecated financial instruments owned by the Company was approximately \$20.9 billion with a borrowing value of \$17.7 billion. The assets are primarily comprised of mortgage- and asset-backed securities, investment grade municipal and corporate bonds, equities and residential and commercial mortgage whole loans. The average advance rate on these different asset types ranges from 57% to 98% and, as described above, is based predominantly on committed, secured facilities that

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

the Company and its subsidiaries maintain in different regions globally. The liquidity ratio, explained above, based solely on Company-owned securities, has averaged 143% over the previous ten months of fiscal 2007 (inclusive of November 2006), including the Company's \$4.0 billion unused committed unsecured bank credit, and 132%, excluding the committed unsecured revolving credit facility. On this same basis, the liquidity ratio as of August 31, 2007 was 157% and 139%, respectively.

While The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. ("Parent Company") is the primary issuer of unsecured debt in the marketplace, the collateral referred to in the preceding paragraph is held in various subsidiaries, both regulated and unregulated. A subsidiary's legal entity status and the Company's intercompany funding structure may constrain liquidity available to the Parent Company, as regulators may prevent the flow of funds and/or securities from a regulated subsidiary to its parent company or other subsidiaries. In recognition of this potential for liquidity to be trapped in subsidiaries, the Company maintains a minimum of \$5.0 billion of liquidity immediately accessible by the Parent Company at all times. This liquidity pool can take the form of cash deposits and money market instruments that are held at the Parent Company level and high-quality collateral (corporate bonds, municipal bonds, equity securities) that is owned by subsidiaries and explicitly pledged to and segregated for the benefit of the Parent Company and maintained at a third-party custodian. For purposes of calculating the aggregate value of the Parent Company Liquidity Pool, the contractually obligated advance rates described herein are used to determine the borrowing value of collateral pledged. As of August 31, 2007 the Parent Company Liquidity Pool was \$13.6 billion comprised entirely of short term money funds, bank deposits and short term high quality money market investments. As of September 19, 2007, the Parent Company Liquidity Pool had increased to a record level of \$19.0 billion. In addition to this immediately available liquidity, the Company monitors unrestricted liquidity available to the Parent Company via the ability to monetize unencumbered assets held in unregulated and regulated entities. As of August 31, 2007, approximately \$7.1 billion of the market value identified in the liquidity ratio data above was held in unregulated entities and thus likely to be available to the Parent Company. The remaining \$13.8 billion market value of unencumbered securities was held in regulated entities, a portion of which may not be available to provide liquidity to the Parent Company.

The cash capital framework is utilized to evaluate the Company's long-term funding sources and requirements in their entirety. Cash capital required to support all of the Company's assets is determined on a regular basis. For purposes of broadly classifying the drivers of cash capital requirements, cash capital usage can be delineated across two very broad categories as (1) firmwide haircuts and (2) illiquid assets/long-term investments. More precisely, the Company holds cash capital to support longer-term funding requirements, including, but not limited to, the following:

- o That portion of financial instruments owned that cannot be funded on a secured basis (i.e., the haircuts);
- o Margin loans and resale principal in excess of the borrowing value of collateral received;
- o Operational cash deposits required to support the regular activities of the Company (e.g., exchange initial margin);
- o Unfunded committed funding obligations, such as corporate loan commitments;
- o Less liquid and illiquid assets, such as mutual funds, restricted securities and fixed assets;
- o Uncollateralized funded loans and funded loans secured by illiquid and/or non-rehypothecatable collateral;
- o Merchant banking assets and other long-term investments; and
- o Regulatory capital in excess of a regulated entity's cash capital based longer-term funding requirements.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

At August 31, 2007, the Company's net cash capital position was \$2.8 billion. Fluctuations in net cash capital are common and are a function of variability in total assets, balance sheet composition and total capital. The Company attempts to maintain cash capital sources in excess of the aggregate longer-term funding requirements of the firm with a recently established target for positive net cash capital of \$2.0 billion. Over the previous ten months of fiscal year 2007 (inclusive of November 2006), the Company's total cash capital requirement, cash capital intensity ratio (average haircut), and net cash capital position have averaged \$66.3 billion, 16.5% and \$553 million, respectively.

In addition to the alternative funding measures above, the Company monitors the maturity profile of its unsecured debt to minimize refinancing risk, maintains relationships with a broad global base of debt investors and bank creditors, establishes and adheres to strict short-term debt investor concentration limits, and periodically tests its secured and unsecured committed credit facilities. An important component of the Company's funding and liquidity risk management efforts involves ongoing dialogues with a large number of creditor constituents. Strong relationships with a diverse base of creditors and debt investors are crucial to the Company's liquidity. The Company also maintains available sources of short-term funding that exceed

48

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

actual utilization, thus allowing it to endure changes in investor appetite and credit capacity to hold the Company's debt obligations.

With respect to the management of refinancing risk, the maturity profile of the long-term debt portfolio of the Company is monitored on an ongoing basis and structured within the context of two diversification guidelines. The Company has a general guideline of no more than 20% of its long-term debt portfolio maturing in any one year, as well as no more than 10% maturing in any one quarter over the next five years. The Company continued to meet these guidelines at the end of the quarter ended August 31, 2007. As of August 31, 2007, the weighted average maturity of the Company's long-term debt was 4.2 years.

Committed Credit Facilities

The Company has a committed revolving credit facility ("Facility") totaling \$4.0 billion, which permits borrowing on a secured basis by the Parent Company, BSSC, BSIL and certain other subsidiaries. The Facility also allows the Parent Company, BSIL and Bear Stearns International Trading Limited ("BSIT") to borrow up to \$4.0 billion of the Facility on an unsecured basis. Secured borrowings can be collateralized by both investment-grade and non-investment-grade financial instruments as the Facility provides for defined advance rates on a wide range of financial instruments eligible to be pledged. The Facility contains financial covenants, the most significant of which require maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company and net capital of BSSC. The Facility terminates in February 2008, with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than February 2009. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company has a \$1.5 billion committed revolving securities repo facility ("Repo Facility"), which permits borrowings secured by a broad range of collateral under a repurchase arrangement by the Parent Company, BSIL, BSIT, BSB and BS Forex. The Repo Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company. The Repo Facility terminates in August 2008, with all repos outstanding at that date payable no later than August 2009. There were no

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

borrowings outstanding under the Repo Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company has a \$350 million committed revolving credit facility ("Pan Asian Facility"), which permits borrowing on a secured basis by the Parent Company, BSSC, Bear Stearns Japan Limited ("BSJL"), and BSIL. The Pan Asian Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company and net capital of BSSC. The Pan Asian Facility terminates in December 2007 with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than December 2008. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Pan Asian Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company has a \$450 million committed revolving credit facility ("Tax Lien Facility"), which permits borrowing on a secured basis by the Parent Company, Plymouth Park Tax Services and Madison Tax Capital LLC. The Tax Lien Facility contains financial covenants that require, among other things, maintenance of specified levels of stockholders' equity of the Company. The Tax Lien Facility terminates in March 2008 with all loans outstanding at that date payable no later than March 2009. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Tax Lien Facility at August 31, 2007.

The Company also maintains a series of committed credit facilities, which permit borrowing on a secured basis, to support liquidity needs for the financing of investment-grade and non-investment-grade corporate loans, residential mortgages, commercial mortgages, listed options, equities and auto loans. The facilities are expected to be drawn from time to time and expire at various dates, the longest of such periods ending in fiscal 2008. All of these facilities contain a term-out option of one year or more for borrowings outstanding at expiration. The banks providing these facilities are committed to provide up to an aggregate of approximately \$6.8 billion. At August 31, 2007, the borrowings outstanding under these committed credit facilities were approximately \$4.9 billion.

Capital Resources

The Parent Company, operating as the centralized unsecured funding arm of the Company, raises the vast majority of the Company's unsecured debt, including both commercial paper and long-term debt. The Parent Company is thus the "central bank" of the Company, where all capital is held and from which capital is deployed. The Parent Company advances funds in the form of debt or equity to subsidiaries to meet their operating funding needs and regulatory capital requirements. In addition to the primary regulated subsidiaries, the Company also conducts significant activities through other wholly owned subsidiaries, including: Bear Stearns Global Lending Limited, Custodial Trust Company, Bear Stearns Financial Products

49

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Inc., Bear Stearns Capital Markets Inc., Bear Stearns Credit Products Inc., Bear Stearns Forex, EMC Mortgage Corporation and Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage, Inc. and Bear Hunter Holdings LLC. In connection with all of the Company's operating activities, a substantial portion of the Company's long-term borrowings and equity has been used to fund investments in, and advances to, these subsidiaries, including subordinated debt advances.

Within this funding framework, the Company attempts to fund equity investments in subsidiaries with equity from the Parent Company (i.e., utilize no equity double leverage). At August 31, 2007, the Parent Company's equity investment in

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

subsidiaries was \$8.8 billion versus common stockholders' equity and preferred equity of \$12.6 billion and \$351.6 million, respectively. As such, at August 31, 2007, the ratio of the equity investment in subsidiaries to Parent Company equity (equity double leverage) was approximately 0.70 based on common equity and 0.68 including preferred equity. At November 30, 2006, these measures were 0.67 based on common equity and 0.65 including preferred equity. Additionally, all subordinated debt advances to regulated subsidiaries for use as regulatory capital, which totaled \$11.6 billion at August 31, 2007, are funded with long-term debt issued by the Company, having a remaining maturity equal to or greater than the maturity of the subordinated debt advance. The Company regularly monitors the nature and significance of assets or activities conducted in all subsidiaries and attempts to fund such assets with both capital and/or borrowings having a maturity profile and relative mix consistent with the nature and self-funding ability of the assets being financed. The funding mix also takes into account regulatory capital requirements for regulated subsidiaries.

Long-term debt totaling \$56.0 billion and \$48.1 billion had remaining maturities beyond one year at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. The Company accesses funding in a variety of markets in the United States, Europe and Asia. The Company issues debt through syndicated U.S. registered offerings, U.S.-registered and 144A medium-term note programs, other U.S. and non-U.S. bond and note offerings and other methods. The Company's access to external sources of financing, as well as the cost of that financing, is dependent on various factors and could be adversely affected by a deterioration of the Company's long- and short-term debt ratings, which are influenced by a number of factors. These include, but are not limited to: material changes in operating margins; earnings trends and volatility; the prudence of funding and liquidity management practices; financial leverage on an absolute basis or relative to peers; the composition of the balance sheet and/or capital structure; geographic and business diversification; and the Company's market share and competitive position in the business segments in which it operates. Material deterioration in any one or a combination of these factors could result in a downgrade of the Company's credit ratings, thus increasing the cost of and/or limiting the availability of unsecured financing. Additionally, a reduction in the Company's credit ratings could also trigger incremental collateral requirements, predominantly in the over-the-counter derivatives market. As of August 31, 2007, a downgrade by either Moody's Investors Service or Standard & Poor's in the Company's long-term credit ratings to the level of A3 or A- (i.e., two notches) would have resulted in the Company being required to post \$113.6 million in additional collateral pursuant to contractual arrangements for outstanding over-the-counter derivatives contracts. A downgrade to Baal or BBB+ (i.e., three notches) would have resulted in the Company being required to post an additional \$391.8 million in collateral.

At August 31, 2007, the Company's long-term/short-term debt ratings were as follows:

	Long-Term Rating	Short-Term Rating

Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited	A (high)	R-1 (middle)
Fitch Ratings	A+	F1+
Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.	AA	NR
Moody's Investors Service	A1	P-1
Rating & Investment Information, Inc.	AA-	NR
Standard & Poor's Ratings Services	A+	A-1

NR - does not assign a short-term rating

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

In June 2007, the four major rating agencies, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services (S&P), Moody's Investors Services (Moody's), Fitch Ratings (Fitch), and Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited (DBRS), affirmed the ratings of the Bear Stearns Companies Inc. in individual press releases. In addition to affirming the Company's ratings, DBRS also confirmed the Positive trend on the ratings. Citing the recent difficulties faced by two hedge funds managed by Bear Stearns Asset Management (BSAM), the four rating agencies generally stated that the Company has the financial capacity and ample liquidity to provide support for the High-Grade Structured Credit Strategies Fund (High-Grade Fund), while continuing to work with creditors and counterparties of the High-Grade Structured Credit Strategies Enhanced Leverage Fund (Enhanced Fund) to reduce leverage and improve liquidity.

50

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Subsequently, in August and September 2007, Moody's issued separate reports reaffirming the Company's ratings and in September 2007, DBRS confirmed both the Company's ratings and Positive trend in a press release. In August 2007, S&P made the decision to change its outlook on the firm to "Negative" from "Stable". This decision was primarily based on reputational issues relating to the BSAM hedge funds. S&P reiterated that they believe Bear Stearns liquidity to be strong and reaffirmed the credit ratings.

Stock Repurchase Program -----

The Company has various employee stock compensation plans designed to increase the emphasis on stock-based incentive compensation and align the compensation of its key employees with the long-term interests of stockholders. Such plans provide for annual grants of stock units and stock options. The Company intends to offset the potentially dilutive impact of the annual grants by purchasing common stock throughout the year in open market and private transactions.

On December 13, 2006, the Board of Directors of the Company approved an amendment to the Stock Repurchase Program ("Repurchase Program") to replenish the previous authorizations to allow the Company to purchase up to \$2.0 billion of common stock in fiscal 2007 and beyond. During the quarter ended August 31, 2007, the Company purchased under the current authorization a total of approximately 3.5 million shares at a cost of \$491.0 million. On September 18, 2007, the Board of Directors approved an amendment to the Repurchase Program authorizing the purchase of up to \$2.5 billion of common stock in fiscal 2007 and beyond. The amendment supersedes the previous \$2.0 billion authorization, under which the Company had acquired approximately \$1.3 billion of common stock. The Repurchase Program will be used to acquire shares of common stock for the Company's employee stock compensation plans and for up to \$1.0 billion in corporate share repurchases.

Pursuant to a \$200 million CAP Plan Earnings Purchase Authorization ("CAP Authorization"), which was approved by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company on December 12, 2006, during the quarter ended August 31, 2007, the Company purchased a total of 26,843 shares of its common stock at a total cost of \$3.8 million. Approximately \$123.0 million was available to be purchased under the CAP Authorization as of August 31, 2007.

Cash Flows -----

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Cash and cash equivalents increased \$13.55 billion to \$18.14 billion at August 31, 2007 from \$4.60 billion at November 30, 2006. Cash provided by operating activities was \$7.75 billion, primarily attributable to the increase in securities sold under agreements to repurchase, net of securities purchased under agreements to resell, and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value, partially offset by the increase in financial instruments owned, at fair value, securities borrowed, net of securities loaned, receivables from customers and cash and securities deposited with clearing organizations or segregated in compliance with federal regulations, which occurred in the normal course of business as a result of changes in customer needs, market conditions and trading strategies. Cash used in investing activities of \$229.3 million reflected purchases of property, equipment and leasehold improvements. Cash provided by financing activities of \$6.03 billion reflected net proceeds from the issuance of long-term borrowings of \$20.24 billion and net proceeds relating to other secured borrowings of \$8.48 billion, primarily to fund normal operating activities. This was partially offset by net payments for unsecured short-term borrowings of \$12.77 billion and the retirement/repurchase of long-term borrowings of \$8.98 billion. Treasury stock purchases of \$1.30 billion were made to provide for the annual grant of CAP Plan units, restricted stock and stock options.

Cash and cash equivalents decreased \$1.13 billion to \$4.73 billion at August 31, 2006 from \$5.86 billion at November 30, 2005. Cash used in operating activities increased to \$12.52 billion, primarily attributable to increases in financial instruments owned, at fair value, and securities borrowed, net of securities loaned, partially offset by increases in payable to customers and financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value, which occurred in the normal course of business as a result of changes in customer needs, market conditions and trading strategies. Cash used in investing activities of \$144.1 million reflected purchases of property, equipment and leasehold improvements. Cash provided by financing activities of \$11.53 billion reflected net proceeds from unsecured long-term borrowings of \$13.40 billion, net proceeds from the issuance of short-term borrowings of \$2.63 billion and net proceeds relating to other secured borrowings of \$3.14 billion, primarily to fund normal operating activities. This was partially offset by payments for the retirement/repurchase of long-term borrowings of \$7.57 billion. Treasury stock purchases of \$982.7 million were made to provide for the annual grant of CAP Plan units, restricted stock units and stock options.

51

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Regulated Subsidiaries

The Company is regulated by the SEC as a consolidated supervised entity ("CSE"). As a CSE, the Company is subject to group-wide supervision and examination by the SEC and is required to compute allowable capital and allowances for market, credit and operational risk on a consolidated basis. As of August 31, 2007, the Company was in compliance with the CSE capital requirements.

As registered broker-dealers and futures commission merchants, Bear Stearns and BSSC are subject to the net capital requirements of the Exchange Act and Rule 1.17 under the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Bear Stearns uses Appendix E of the Net Capital Rule which establishes alternative net capital requirements for broker-dealers that are part of consolidated supervised entities. Appendix E allows Bear Stearns to calculate net capital charges for market risk and derivatives-related credit risk based on mathematical models provided that Bear Stearns holds tentative net capital in excess of \$1 billion and net capital in

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

excess of \$500 million. BSIL and BSIT, the Company's London-based broker-dealer subsidiaries, are subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the United Kingdom's Financial Services Authority. Additionally, BSB is subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the Financial Regulator. Custodial Trust Company ("CTC"), a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insured New Jersey state chartered bank, is subject to the regulatory capital requirements of the FDIC. At August 31, 2007, Bear Stearns, BSSC, BSIL, BSIT, BSB and CTC were in compliance with their respective regulatory capital requirements. Certain other subsidiaries are subject to various securities regulations and capital adequacy requirements promulgated by the regulatory and exchange authorities of the countries in which they operate. At August 31, 2007, these other subsidiaries were in compliance with their applicable local capital adequacy requirements.

The Company's broker-dealer subsidiaries and other regulated subsidiaries are subject to minimum capital requirements and may also be subject to certain restrictions on the payment of dividends, which could limit the Company's ability to withdraw capital from such regulated subsidiaries, which in turn could limit the Company's ability to pay dividends. See Note 10, "Regulatory Requirements," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Merchant Banking and Private Equity Investments

In connection with the Company's merchant banking activities, the Company had investments in merchant banking and private equity-related investment funds as well as direct investments in private equity-related investments. At August 31, 2007, the Company held investments with an aggregate recorded fair value of approximately \$1.61 billion, reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition in "Other assets." At November 30, 2006, the Company held investments with an aggregate recorded value of approximately \$822.4 million. In addition to these various direct and indirect principal investments, the Company has made commitments to invest in private equity-related investments and partnerships (see the summary table under "Commitments").

High Yield Positions

As part of its fixed income activities, the Company participates in the underwriting and trading of non-investment-grade corporate debt securities and also invests in, syndicates and trades in loans to highly leveraged, below investment grade rated companies (collectively, "high yield positions"). Non-investment-grade debt securities have been defined as non-investment-grade corporate debt and emerging market debt rated BB+ or lower, or equivalent ratings recognized by credit rating agencies. At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the Company held high yield positions approximating \$12.1 billion and \$10.7 billion, respectively, substantially all of which are in "Financial instruments owned, at fair value" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition, and \$684.4 million and \$605.4 million, respectively, reflected in "Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value" in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. Included in the high yield positions are extensions of credit to highly leveraged companies. At August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the amount outstanding to highly leveraged borrowers totaled \$9.2 billion and \$7.7 billion, respectively. The largest industry concentration to highly leveraged borrowers was the transportation industry which approximated 22.5% of these highly leveraged borrowers' positions at August 31, 2007. The largest industry concentration to highly leveraged borrowers was the technology industry which approximated 22.8% of these highly leveraged borrowers' positions at November 30, 2006. Additionally, the Company has lending commitments with highly leveraged borrowers (see the summary table under "Commitments").

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company's Risk Management Department and senior trading managers monitor exposure to market and credit risk for high yield positions and establish limits and concentrations of risk by individual issuer. High yield positions generally involve greater risk than investment grade debt securities due to credit considerations, liquidity of secondary trading markets and increased vulnerability to changes in general economic conditions. The level of the Company's high yield positions, and the impact of such activities on the Company's results of operations, can fluctuate from period to period as a result of customer demand, economic conditions and market considerations.

Contractual Obligations

In connection with its operating activities, the Company enters into contractual obligations that require future cash payments. At August 31, 2007, the Company's contractual obligations by maturity, excluding derivative financial instruments, were as follows:

(in millions)	Payments Due By Period				To
	Remaining Fiscal 2007	Fiscal 2008-2009	Fiscal 2010-2011	Thereafter	
Long-term borrowings (1) (2)	\$ 1,362	\$ 22,786	\$ 16,784	\$ 24,219	\$
Future minimum lease payments (3)	31	252	257	746	

(1) Amounts include hybrid debt issuances accounted for at fair value as elected under SFAS No. 155 and fair value adjustments in accordance with SFAS No. 133 as well as \$262.5 million of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures ("Debentures"). The Debentures will mature on August 15, 2031; however, the Company, at its option, may redeem the Debentures beginning August 15, 2006. The Debentures are reflected in the table at their contractual maturity dates.

(2) Included in fiscal 2008-2009 are approximately \$1.11 billion of floating-rate notes that are redeemable prior to maturity at the option of the noteholder. These notes contain certain provisions that effectively enable noteholders to put these notes back to the Company and, therefore, are reflected in the table at the date such notes first become redeemable. The final maturity dates of these notes are during fiscal 2010-2011.

(3) See Note 11, "Commitments and Contingencies," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Commitments

The Company has commitments(1) under a variety of commercial arrangements. At August 31, 2007, the Company's commitments associated with lending and financing, private equity-related investments and partnerships, outstanding

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

letters of credit, underwriting and other commercial commitments summarized by period of expiration were as follows:

(in millions)	Amount of Commitment Expiration Per Period				Comm with Mat
	Remaining Fiscal 2007	Fiscal 2008- 2009	Fiscal 2010- 2011	Thereafter	
Lending-related commitments:					
Investment-grade (2)	\$ 345	\$ 741	\$ 1,755	\$ 1,213	\$
Non-investment-grade (2)	193	1,199	671	1,148	
Contingent commitments	1,971	5,652	-	-	
Commitments to invest in private equity-related investments and partnerships (3)					
	-	588	14	552	
Underwriting commitments	124	-	-	-	
Commercial and residential loans	1,997	7,157	176	16	
Letters of credit	3,020	647	35	-	
Other commercial commitments	28	113	-	-	

- (1) See Note 11, "Commitments and Contingencies," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (2) In order to mitigate the exposure to investment-grade and non-investment-grade borrowings the Company entered into credit default swaps approximating \$713.7 million and \$240.4 million, respectively, in notional value, at August 31, 2007.
- (3) These commitments will be funded, if called, through the end of the respective investment periods, the longest of such periods ending in 2017.

53

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

OFF-BALANCE-SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into arrangements with special purpose entities ("SPEs"), also known as variable interest entities ("VIEs"). SPEs are corporations, trusts or partnerships that are established for a limited purpose. SPEs, by their nature, are generally not controlled by their equity owners, as the establishing documents govern all material decisions. The Company's primary involvement with SPEs relates to securitization transactions in which transferred assets, including commercial and residential mortgages, consumer receivables, securities and other financial assets are sold to an SPE and repackaged into securities or similar beneficial interests. SPEs may also be used to create securities with a unique risk profile desired by investors and as a means of intermediating financial risk. The Company, in the normal course of business, may establish SPEs, sell assets to SPEs, underwrite, distribute and make a market in securities or other beneficial interests issued by SPEs, transact derivatives with SPEs, own securities or other beneficial interests, including residuals, in SPEs, and provide liquidity or other guarantees for SPEs.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

The Company follows SFAS No. 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities--a Replacement of FASB Statement No. 125," to account for securitizations and other transfers of financial assets. In accordance with SFAS No. 140, the Company accounts for transfers of financial assets as sales provided that control has been relinquished. Control is deemed to be relinquished only when all of the following conditions have been met: (1) the assets have been isolated from the transferor, even in bankruptcy or other receivership; (2) the transferee is a Qualifying Special Purpose Entity ("QSPE") or has the right to pledge or exchange the assets received; and (3) the transferor has not maintained effective control over the transferred assets. Therefore, the Company derecognizes financial assets transferred in securitizations, provided that such transfer meets all of these criteria. See Note 4, "Transfers of Financial Assets and Liabilities," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a more complete discussion of the Company's securitization activities.

The Company regularly creates or transacts with entities that may be VIEs. These entities are an essential part of its securitization, asset management and structured finance businesses. In addition, the Company purchases and sells instruments that may be variable interests. The Company adopted FIN No. 46 (R) for its variable interests in fiscal 2004. The Company consolidates those VIEs in which the Company is the primary beneficiary. See Note 5, "Variable Interest Entities and Mortgage Loan Special Purpose Entities," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a complete discussion of the consolidation of VIEs.

The majority of the SPEs that the Company sponsors or transacts with are QSPEs, which the Company does not consolidate in accordance with this guidance. QSPEs are entities that have little or no discretionary activities and may only passively hold assets and distribute cash generated by the assets they hold. The Company reflects the fair value of its interests in QSPEs on its balance sheet but does not recognize the assets or liabilities of QSPEs. QSPEs are employed extensively in the Company's mortgage and asset securitization business.

Certain other SPEs do not meet the requirements of a QSPE, because their activities are not sufficiently limited or they have entered into certain non-qualifying transactions. The Company follows the criteria in FIN No. 46 (R) in determining whether it should consolidate such entities. These SPEs are commonly employed in collateralized debt obligation transactions where portfolio managers require the ability to buy and sell assets or in synthetic credit transactions.

In addition to the above, in the ordinary course of business the Company issues various guarantees to counterparties in connection with certain derivatives, leasing, securitization and other transactions. See Note 12, "Guarantees," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a complete discussion on guarantees.

DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Derivative financial instruments are contractual commitments between counterparties that derive their values from changes in an underlying interest rate, currency exchange rate, index (e.g., S&P 500), reference rate (e.g., LIBOR), or asset value referenced in the related contract. Some derivatives, such as futures contracts, certain options and index-referenced warrants, can be traded on an exchange. Other derivatives, such as interest rate and currency swaps, caps, floors, collars, swaptions, equity swaps and options, structured notes and forward contracts, are negotiated in the over-the-counter markets. Derivatives generate both on- and off-balance-sheet risks depending on the nature of the contract. The Company is engaged as a dealer in

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

over-the-counter derivatives and, accordingly, enters into transactions involving derivative instruments as part of its customer-related and proprietary trading activities.

The Company's dealer activities require it to make markets and trade a variety of derivative instruments. In connection with these activities, the Company attempts to mitigate its exposure to market risk by entering into offsetting transactions that may include over-the-counter derivative contracts or the purchase or sale of interest-bearing securities, equity securities, financial futures and forward contracts. The Company also utilizes derivative instruments to offset proprietary market-making and trading activities. In this regard, the utilization of derivative instruments is designed to reduce or mitigate market risks associated with holding dealer inventories or in connection with arbitrage-related trading activities. The Company also utilizes interest rate and currency swaps, futures contracts and U.S. Treasury positions to hedge certain debt issuances as part of its asset and liability management.

To measure derivative activity, notional or contract amounts are frequently used. Notional/contract amounts are used to calculate contractual cash flows to be exchanged and are generally not actually paid or received, with the exception of currency swaps, foreign exchange forwards and mortgage-backed securities forwards. The notional/contract amounts of financial instruments that give rise to off-balance-sheet market risk are indicative only to the extent of involvement in the particular class of financial instruments and are not necessarily an indication of overall market risk.

As of August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, the Company had notional/contract amounts of approximately \$12.09 trillion and \$8.74 trillion, respectively, of derivative financial instruments, of which \$2.08 trillion and \$1.25 trillion, respectively, were listed futures and option contracts. The aggregate notional/contract value of derivative contracts is a reflection of the level of activity and does not represent the amounts that are recorded in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The Company's derivative financial instruments outstanding, which either are used to offset trading positions, modify the interest rate characteristics of its long- and short-term debt, or are part of its derivative dealer activities, are marked to fair value.

The Company's derivatives had a notional weighted average maturity of approximately 4.2 years and 4.1 years at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006, respectively. The maturities of notional/contract amounts outstanding for derivative financial instruments as of August 31, 2007 were as follows:

(in billions)	Less Than One Year	One to Three Years	Three to Five Years	Greater Than Five Years
Swap agreements, including options, swaptions, caps, collars and floors	\$ 2,144.4	\$ 2,185.4	\$ 2,286.6	\$ 2,853.4
Futures contracts	633.4	393.5	47.8	-
Forward contracts	195.7	-	-	-
Options held	652.3	123.5	5.0	1.3
Options written	445.1	120.5	4.8	1.4

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Total	\$ 4,070.9	\$ 2,822.9	\$ 2,344.2	\$ 2,856.1
Percent of total	33.7%	23.3%	19.4%	23.6%

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These principles require management to make certain estimates and assumptions that could materially affect reported amounts in the financial statements (see Note 1, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies," in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements). Critical accounting policies are those policies that are the most important to the financial statements and/or those that require significant management judgment related to matters that are uncertain.

Valuation of Financial Instruments

The Company has identified the valuation of financial instruments as a critical accounting policy due to the complex nature of certain of its products, the degree of judgment required to appropriately value these products and the pervasive impact of such valuation on the financial condition and earnings of the Company.

55

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The Company adopted SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements," in the first quarter of 2007. SFAS No. 157 applies to all financial instruments that are being measured and reported on a fair value basis. This includes those items reported in "Financial instruments owned" and "Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased" as well as other assets and liabilities that are reported at fair value.

As defined in SFAS No. 157, fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In determining fair value the Company uses various methods including market, income and cost approaches. Based on these approaches, the Company often utilizes certain assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk and or the risks inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique. These inputs can be readily observable, market corroborated, or generally unobservable firm inputs. The Company utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. Based on the observability of the inputs used in the valuation techniques the Company is required to provide the following information according to the fair value hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy ranks the quality and reliability of the information used to determine fair values. Financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value will be classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

Level 1: Inputs based on quoted market prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

Level 2: Observable market based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

(1) Financial Instruments Valued Based on Inputs Based on Quoted Market Prices for Identical Assets or Liabilities in Active Markets

The Company's valuation policy is to use quoted market prices from securities and derivatives exchanges where they are available and reliable. Financial instruments valued based on quoted market prices are primarily exchange-traded derivatives and listed equities. Financial instruments that are most typically valued using alternative approaches but for which the Company typically receives independent external valuation information include U.S. Treasuries, other U.S. Government and agency securities, as well as certain corporate debt securities.

(2) Financial Instruments Whose Inputs are Observable Market Based or Unobservable Inputs that are Corroborated By Market Data

The second broad category consists of financial instruments for which the Company does not receive quoted prices; therefore, models or other methodologies are utilized to value these financial instruments. Such models are primarily industry-standard models that consider various assumptions, including time value, yield curve, volatility factors, prepayment speeds, default rates, loss severity, current market and contractual prices for the underlying financial instruments, as well as other relevant economic measures. Substantially all these assumptions are observable in the marketplace, can be derived from observable data or are supported by observable levels at which transactions are executed in the marketplace. A degree of subjectivity is required to determine appropriate models or methodologies as well as appropriate underlying assumptions. This subjectivity makes these valuations inherently less reliable than quoted market prices. Financial instruments in this category include sovereign debt, certain corporate equities and corporate debt, certain mortgage backed securities and non-exchange-traded derivatives such as interest rate swaps. For an indication of the Company's involvement in derivatives, including maturity terms, see the table setting forth notional/contract amounts outstanding in the preceding "Derivative Financial Instruments" section.

(3) Financial Instruments Whose Inputs Used to Determine the Fair Value Is Estimated Based on Internally Developed Models or Methodologies Utilizing Significant Assumptions or Other Data That Are Generally Less Readily Observable from Objective Sources

Certain complex financial instruments and other investments have significant data inputs that cannot be validated by reference to readily observable data. These instruments are typically illiquid, long dated or unique in nature and therefore engender considerable judgment by traders and their management who, as dealers in many of these instruments, have the appropriate knowledge to estimate data inputs that are less readily observable. For certain instruments, extrapolation or other methods are applied to observed market or other data to estimate assumptions that are not observable.

The Company participates in the underwriting, securitization or trading of non-performing mortgage-related assets, certain mortgage-backed securities and residual interests. In addition, the Company has a portfolio of Chapter 13 and other credit

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

card receivables from individuals. Certain of these high yield positions have limited price observability. In these instances, fair values are determined by statistical analysis of historical cash flows, default probabilities, recovery rates, time value of money and discount rates considered appropriate given the

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

level of risk in the instrument and associated investor yield requirements.

The Company is also engaged in structuring and acting as principal in complex derivative transactions. Complex derivatives include certain long-dated equity derivatives, certain credit and municipal derivatives and other exotic derivative structures. These non-exchange-traded instruments may have immature or limited markets and, by their nature, involve complex valuation methodologies and models, which are often refined to correlate with the market risk of these instruments.

See Note 2, "Financial Instruments" of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of the financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value.

Controls Over Valuation of Financial Instruments

In recognition of the importance the Company places on the accuracy of its valuation of financial instruments as described in the three categories above, the Company engages in an ongoing internal review of its valuations. Members of the Controllers and Risk Management Departments perform analysis of internal valuations, typically on a monthly basis but often on an intra-month basis as well. These departments are independent of the trading areas responsible for valuing the positions. Results of the monthly validation process are reported to the Mark-to-Market Committee ("MTMC"), which is composed of senior management from the Risk Management and Controllers Departments. The MTMC is responsible for ensuring that the approaches used to independently validate the Company's valuations are robust, comprehensive and effective. Typical approaches include valuation comparisons with external sources, comparisons with observed trading, independent comparisons of key model valuation inputs, independent trade modeling and a variety of other techniques.

Merchant Banking

As part of its merchant banking activities, the Company participates from time to time in principal investments. As part of these activities, the Company originates, structures and invests in merger, acquisition, restructuring and leveraged capital transactions, including leveraged buyouts. The Company's principal investments in these transactions are generally made in the form of equity investments, equity-related investments or subordinated loans and have not historically required significant levels of capital investment.

Equity interests and securities acquired are reflected in the condensed consolidated financial statements at fair value, which is often represented as initial cost until significant transactions or developments indicate that a change in the carrying value of the securities is appropriate. This represents the Company's best estimate of exit price as defined by SFAS No. 157. Generally, the carrying values of these securities will be increased based on company performance and in those instances where market values are readily ascertainable by reference to substantial transactions occurring in the marketplace or quoted market prices. Reductions to the carrying value of these securities are made in the event that the Company's estimate of net realizable value has declined below the carrying value. See "Merchant Banking and Private Equity Investments" in Management's Discussion and Analysis for additional details.

Legal, Regulatory and Tax Contingencies

In the normal course of business, the Company has been named as a defendant in various legal actions, including arbitrations, class actions and other litigation. Certain of the legal actions include claims for substantial compensatory and/or punitive damages or claims for indeterminate amounts of damages. The Company is also involved in other reviews, investigations and proceedings by governmental and self-regulatory agencies regarding the Company's

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

business, certain of which may result in adverse judgments, settlements, fines, penalties, injunctions or other relief.

The Company is subject to the income tax laws of the United States, its states and municipalities and those of the foreign jurisdictions in which the Company has significant business operations. These tax laws are complex and subject to different interpretations by the taxpayer and the relevant governmental taxing authorities. The Company must make judgments and interpretations about the application of these inherently complex tax laws when determining the provision for income taxes and must also make estimates about when in the future certain items affect taxable income in the various tax jurisdictions. Disputes over interpretations of the tax laws may be settled with the taxing authority upon examination or audit. The

57

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Company regularly evaluates the likelihood of assessments in each of the taxing jurisdictions resulting from current and subsequent years' examinations and tax reserves are established as appropriate.

The Company establishes reserves for potential losses that may arise out of litigation, regulatory proceedings and tax audits to the extent that such losses are probable and can be estimated, in accordance with SFAS No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies." Reserves for litigation and regulatory proceedings are generally determined on a case-by-case basis and represent an estimate of probable losses after considering, among other factors, the progress of each case, prior experience, and the experience of others in similar cases, and the opinions and views of internal and external legal counsel. Once established, reserves are adjusted as additional information becomes available or when an event requiring a change to the reserves occurs. Significant judgment is required in making these estimates and the ultimate resolution may differ materially from the amounts reserved.

Because litigation is inherently unpredictable, particularly in cases where claimants seek substantial or indeterminate damages or where investigations and proceedings are in the early stages, the Company cannot estimate losses or ranges of losses where there is only a reasonable possibility that a loss may be incurred, the ultimate resolution, the timing of resolution or the amount of eventual settlement, fine, penalty or relief, if any.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS

In July 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes--an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" ("FIN No. 48"). FIN No. 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with SFAS No. 109. FIN No. 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN No. 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. The Company will adopt the provisions of FIN No. 48 beginning in the first quarter of 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of FIN No. 48 may have on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." SFAS No. 159 permits entities to elect to measure financial assets and liabilities (except for those that are

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

specifically scoped out of the Statement) at fair value. The election to measure a financial asset or liability at fair value can be made on an instrument-by-instrument basis and is irrevocable. The difference between the carrying value and the fair value at the election date is recorded as a transition adjustment to opening retained earnings. Subsequent changes in fair value are recognized in earnings. The Company will adopt SFAS No. 159 effective December 1, 2007. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS No. 159 to have a material impact on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

In April 2007, the FASB issued a Staff Position ("FSP") FIN No. 39-1, "Amendment of FASB Interpretation No. 39." FSP FIN No. 39-1 defines "right of setoff" and specifies what conditions must be met for a derivative contract to qualify for this right of setoff. It also addresses the applicability of a right of setoff to derivative instruments and clarifies the circumstances in which it is appropriate to offset amounts recognized for those instruments in the statement of financial position. In addition, this FSP permits offsetting of fair value amounts recognized for multiple derivative instruments executed with the same counterparty under a master netting arrangement and fair value amounts recognized for the right to reclaim cash collateral (a receivable) or the obligation to return cash collateral (a payable) arising from the same master netting arrangement as the derivative instruments. The provisions of this FSP are consistent with the Company's current accounting practice. This interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, with early application permitted. The adoption of FSP FIN No. 39-1 will not have a material impact on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

In May 2007, the FASB issued FSP FIN No. 46(R)-7, "Application of FASB Interpretation No. 46(R) to Investment Companies." FSP FIN No. 46(R)-7 amends the scope of the exception to FIN No. 46(R) to state that investments accounted for at fair value in accordance with the specialized accounting guidance in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") Audit and Accounting Guide, Investment Companies, are not subject to consolidation under FIN No. 46(R). This interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2007. Certain consolidated subsidiaries of the Company currently apply the accounting guidance in the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide, Investment

58

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Companies. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the adoption of this interpretation will have on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

In June 2007, the Accounting Standards Executive Committee of the AICPA issued Statement of Position ("SOP") 07-1, "Clarification of the Scope of the Audit and Accounting Guide Investment Companies and Accounting by Parent Companies and Equity Method Investors for Investments in Investment Companies." This SOP provides guidance for determining whether an entity is within the scope of the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide Investment Companies (the "Guide"). Additionally, it provides guidance as to whether a parent company or an equity method investor can apply the specialized industry accounting principles of the Guide (referred to as investment company accounting). This SOP is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, the adoption of SOP 07-1 may have on the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

EFFECTS OF INFLATION

The Company's assets are primarily recorded at their current market value and, to a large extent, are liquid in nature. The rate of inflation affects the Company's expenses, such as employee compensation, office leasing costs, information technology and communications charges, which may not be readily recoverable in the price of services offered by the Company. In addition, to the extent that inflation causes interest rates to rise and has other adverse effects on the securities markets and on the value of securities held in inventory, it may adversely affect the Company's financial position and results of operations.

For a description of the Company's risk management policies, including a discussion of the Company's primary market risk exposures, which include interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk, equity price risk and commodity price risk, as well as a discussion of the Company's credit risk and a discussion of how those exposures are managed, refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2006.

59

Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Value-at-Risk

An estimation of potential losses that could arise from changes in market conditions is typically accomplished through the use of statistical models known as value-at-risk ("VaR") that seek to predict risk of loss based on historical and/or market-implied price and volatility patterns. VaR estimates the probability of the value of a financial instrument rising above or falling below a specified amount. The calculation uses the simulated changes in value of the market risk-sensitive financial instruments to estimate the amount of change in the current value that could occur at a specified probability level.

The Company has performed an entity-wide VaR analysis of the Company's financial assets and liabilities, including financial instruments owned and sold, repurchase and resale agreements and funding assets and liabilities. The Company regularly evaluates and enhances such VaR models in an effort to more accurately measure risk of loss. Certain equity-method investments and non-publicly traded investments are not reflected in the VaR results. The VaR related to certain non-trading financial instruments has been included in this analysis and is not reported separately because the amounts are not material. The calculation is based on a methodology that uses a one-day interval and a 95% confidence level. The Company uses a historical simulation approach for VaR, which is supplemented by statistical risk add-ons for risk factors that do not lend themselves readily to historical simulation. Historical simulation involves the generation of price movements in a portfolio using price sensitivities, and actual historical movements of the underlying risk factors to which the securities are sensitive. Risk factors incorporated via historical simulation include interest rate movements, yield curve shape, general market credit spreads, equity price movement, option volatility movement (for certain option types) and foreign exchange movement, among others. Risk factors incorporated via add-on factors include the risk of specific bond issuers, among others. The Company believes that its VaR methodologies are consistent with industry practices for these calculations.

VaR has inherent limitations, including reliance on historical data, which may not accurately predict future market risk, and the quantitative risk information generated is limited by the parameters established in creating the models. There can be no assurance that actual losses occurring on any one day arising from

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

changes in market conditions will not exceed the VaR amounts shown below or that such losses will not occur more than once in 20 trading days. VaR is not likely to accurately predict exposures in markets that exhibit sudden fundamental changes or shifts in market conditions or established trading relationships. Many of the Company's hedging strategies are structured around likely established trading relationships and, consequently, those hedges may not be effective and VaR models may not accurately predict actual results. Furthermore, VaR calculated for a one-day horizon does not fully capture the market risk of positions that cannot be liquidated in a one-day period. However, the Company believes VaR models are an established methodology for the quantification of risk in the financial services industry despite these limitations. VaR is best used in conjunction with other financial disclosures in order to assess the Company's risk profile.

The aggregate VaR presented here is less than the sum of the individual components (i.e., interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk, equity risk, and commodity risk), due to the benefit of diversification among the risks. Diversification benefit equals the difference between aggregate VaR and the sum of the VaRs for the four risk categories. This benefit arises because the simulated one-day losses for each of the four primary market risk categories occur on different days and because of general diversification benefits introduced when risk is measured across a larger set of specific risk factors than exist in the respective categories; similar diversification benefits also are taken into account across risk factors within each category. The following table illustrates the VaR for each component of market risk as of August 31, 2007, May 31, 2007, February 28, 2007 and November 30, 2006.

(in millions)	August 31, 2007	May 31, 2007	February 28, 2007	November 30, 2006
MARKET RISK				
Interest rate	\$ 41.6	\$ 30.5	\$ 27.6	\$ 29.9
Currency	1.3	2.5	1.3	0.8
Equity	6.8	4.8	6.9	3.0
Commodity/energy	3.1	2.4	1.0	0.0
Diversification benefit	(17.8)	(11.5)	(8.9)	(4.9)
Aggregate VaR	\$ 35.0	\$ 28.7	27.9	28.8

60

Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The table below illustrates the high, low and average VaR for each component of market risk and aggregate market risk during the quarters ended August 31, 2007 and May 31, 2007:

(in millions)	Quarter Ended August 31, 2007			Quarter Ended May 31, 2007		
	High	Low	Average	High	Low	Average
MARKET RISK						
Interest rate	\$ 45.0	22.5	32.7	\$ 33.9	24.3	29.0
Currency	2.8	0.3	1.3	3.4	0.0	1.2
Equity	12.4	4.4	6.9	7.6	4.4	6.4

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Commodity/Energy	4.4	1.6	2.8	3.0	0.6	1.5
Aggregate VaR	41.5	25.5	32.2	33.3	22.7	27.7

Aggregate average VaR increased to \$32.2 million for the 2007 quarter from \$27.7 for the quarter ended May 31, 2007. The increase was primarily due to higher levels of exposure to interest rates and commodities.

The Company utilizes a wide variety of market risk management methods, including trading limits; marking all positions to market on a daily basis; daily profit and loss statements; position reports; daily risk highlight reports; aged inventory position reports; and independent verification of inventory pricing. The risk policy committee reviews positions, profits and losses and notable trading strategies on a weekly basis. The Company believes that these procedures, which stress timely communication between traders, trading department management and senior management, are the most important elements of the risk management process.

Stress testing (also referred to as scenario analysis) measures the risk of loss over a variety of extreme market conditions that are defined in advance. Stress testing is a key methodology used in the management of market risk as well as counterparty credit risk (see "Credit Risk"). Stress tests are calculated at the firmwide level for particular trading books, customer accounts and individual positions. Stress tests are performed on a regular basis as well as on an ad hoc basis, as deemed appropriate. The ongoing evaluation process of trading risks as well as the consideration of new trading positions commonly incorporates an ad hoc discussion of "what-if" stressed market conditions and their impact on profitability. This analysis varies in its degree of formality based on the judgment of trading department management, risk management and senior managers. While the Company recognizes that no methodology can perfectly predict future market conditions, it believes that these tools are an important supplement to the Company's risk management process. The Company expects to continue to develop and refine its formal stress testing methodologies.

61

Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The following chart represents a summary of the daily principal transactions revenues and reflects a combination of trading revenues, net interest revenues for certain trading areas and other revenues for the quarters ended August 31, 2007 and 2006. The chart represents a historical summary of the results generated by the Company's trading activities as opposed to the probability approach used by the VaR model. The average daily trading profit was \$4.6 million and \$16.8 million for the quarters ended August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. There were 23 daily trading losses for the quarter ended August 31, 2007 and 4 daily trading losses for the quarter ended August 31, 2006. Daily trading losses exceeded the reported average aggregate VaR amounts on 10 days during the fiscal quarter ended August 31, 2007 and never exceeded the reported average aggregate VaR amounts during the fiscal quarter ended August 31, 2006. Trading losses experienced in the mortgage-related and leveraged finance areas contributed to the number of daily trading losses for the 2007 quarter. The frequency distribution of the Company's daily net trading revenues reflects the Company's historical ability to manage its exposure to market risk and the diversified nature of its trading activities. No guarantee can be given regarding future net trading revenues or future earnings volatility. However, the Company believes that these results are indicative of its commitment to the management of market trading risk.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

DISTRIBUTION OF DAILY NET TRADING REVENUES

Quarters Ended August 31, 2007 and August 31, 2006

[GRAPHIC CHART OMITTED]

The following is a graphic chart represented as a table.

(20)+	(20)-(15)	(15)-(10)	(10)-(5)	(5)-0	0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30+
14	2	3	4	0	2	5	4	10	2	2	3
		1	1	2	2	17	15	12	5	3	

(*) DAILY TRADING REVENUES (\$ in millions)

(+) NUMBER OF TRADING DAYS

62

Item 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Credit Risk

The Company measures its actual credit exposure (the replacement cost of counterparty contracts) on a daily basis. Master netting agreements, collateral and credit insurance are used to mitigate counterparty credit risk. The credit exposures reflect these risk-reducing features to the extent they are legally enforceable. The Company's net replacement cost of derivative contracts in a gain position at August 31, 2007 and November 30, 2006 approximated \$7.89 billion and \$4.99 billion, respectively. Exchange-traded financial instruments, which typically are guaranteed by a highly rated clearing organization, have margin requirements that substantially mitigate the risk of credit loss.

The following table summarizes the counterparty credit quality of the Company's exposure with respect to over-the-counter derivatives (including foreign exchange and forward-settling mortgage transactions) as of August 31, 2007:

Over-the-Counter Derivative Credit Exposure (1)
(\$ in millions)

Rating (2)	Exposure	Collateral (3)	Exposure, Net of Collateral (4)	Percentage of Exposure, Net of Collateral
AAA	\$ 3,369	56	3,333	42%
AA	6,981	4,939	2,153	27%
A	3,869	2,230	1,784	23%
BBB	354	239	203	3%
BB and lower	1,571	3,162	322	4%
Non-rated	152	223	94	1%

(1) Excluded are covered transactions structured to ensure that the market

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

values of collateral will at all times equal or exceed the related exposures. The net exposure for these transactions will, under all circumstances, be zero.

- (2) Internal counterparty credit ratings, as assigned by the Company's Credit Department, converted to rating agency equivalents.
- (3) For lower-rated counterparties, the Company generally receives collateral in excess of the current market value of derivative contracts.
- (4) In calculating exposure net of collateral, collateral amounts are limited to the amount of current exposure for each counterparty. Excess collateral is not applied to reduce exposure because such excess in one counterparty portfolio cannot be applied to deficient collateral in a different counterparty portfolio.

63

Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As required by Rule 13a-15(b) of the Exchange Act, the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) were effective as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report (i) to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and (ii) to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that the Company submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including the Company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. As required by Rule 13a-15(d) under the Exchange Act, the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the Company's internal control over financial reporting to determine whether any changes occurred during the quarter covered by this quarterly report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Based on that evaluation, there have been no such changes during the quarter covered by this quarterly report.

64

Part II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the normal course of business, the Company has been named a defendant in various legal actions, including arbitrations, class actions and other litigation. Certain of the legal actions include claims for substantial compensatory and/or punitive damages or claims for indeterminate amounts of damages. The Company is also involved in other reviews, investigations and proceedings by governmental and self-regulatory organizations regarding the Company's business. Certain of the foregoing could result in adverse judgments, settlements, fines, penalties or other relief.

Because litigation is inherently unpredictable, particularly in cases where

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

claimants seek substantial or indeterminate damages or where investigations and proceedings are in the early stages, the Company cannot predict with certainty the loss or range of loss related to such matters, how such matters will be resolved, when they will be ultimately resolved, or what the eventual settlement, fine, penalty or other relief might be. Consequently, the Company cannot estimate losses or ranges of losses for matters where there is only a reasonable possibility that a loss may have been incurred. Although the ultimate outcome of these matters cannot be ascertained at this time, it is the opinion of management that the resolution of the foregoing matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Company, taken as a whole; such resolution may, however, have a material effect on the operating results in any future period, depending on the level of income for such period.

The Company has provided reserves for such matters in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies". The ultimate resolution may differ from the amounts reserved.

Certain legal proceedings in which the Company is involved are discussed in Note 17 to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company's 2006 Financial Report; Part I, Item 3, of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2006 ("Form 10-K") and in Note 11 to the condensed consolidated financial statements included herein. The following discussion is limited to recent developments concerning our legal proceedings and should be read in conjunction with those earlier Reports.

IPO Underwriting Fee Antitrust Litigation

As previously reported in the Company's Form 10-K, by Order dated April 18, 2006, the District Court denied the Issuer plaintiffs' motion for class certification. The Issuer plaintiffs appealed the District Court's ruling to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. By Order dated September 11, 2007, the Second Circuit reversed the District Court's denial of class certification and remanded the matter back to the District Court for further consideration of certain questions specified in the Second Circuit's Order.

In re McKesson HBOC, Inc. Securities Litigation

As previously reported in the Company's Form 10-K, this matter arises out of a merger between McKesson Corporation ("McKesson") and HBO & Company ("HBOC").

Beginning on June 29, 1999, 53 purported class actions were commenced in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. These actions were subsequently consolidated, and the plaintiffs proceeded to file a series of amended complaints. On February 15, 2002, plaintiffs filed a third amended consolidated complaint (the "Federal Class Action"), which alleges that Bear Stearns violated Sections 10(b) and 14(a) of the Exchange Act in connection with allegedly false and misleading disclosures contained in a joint proxy statement/prospectus that was issued with respect to the McKesson/HBOC merger.

On December 8, 2005, Bear Stearns commenced a separate action in New York State Supreme Court, New York County, Bear Stearns v. McKesson Corp. (the "New York Action"), asserting breach of contracts and other claims against McKesson based on the engagement letter and seeking, among other things, declaratory relief and damages.

On September 24, 2007, the parties in the Federal Class Action entered into a stipulation of settlement. The stipulation of settlement provides that, subject to final approval by the District Court, the claims asserted on behalf of the settlement class against Bear Stearns will be dismissed with prejudice and that Bear Stearns denies any wrongdoing in connection with the claims asserted

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

against it in the Federal Class Action. Under the stipulation of settlement, promptly following preliminary approval of the settlement by the District Court, Bear Stearns will withdraw its appeal of the District Court's approval of McKesson's settlement of the Federal Class Action. The District Court granted preliminary approval on September 28, 2007. Following the entry of a final judgment dismissing the claims asserted against Bear Stearns in the Federal Class

65

Part II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Action, Bear Stearns has agreed to dismiss its claims against McKesson in the New York Action and Bear Stearns and McKesson have agreed to exchange mutual releases. Bear Stearns will make no payment in connection with the settlement.

Collateralized Debt Obligations Matter

As previously reported in the Company's Form 10-K, Bear Stearns was notified by the Staff of the SEC, Southeast Regional Office, that the Staff intended to recommend that the Commission bring a civil enforcement action against Bear Stearns in connection with Bear Stearns' involvement in the pricing, valuation and analysis related to approximately \$62.9 million of collateralized debt obligations that were purchased by a client of Bear Stearns. On September 27, 2007, the Staff of the SEC advised Bear Stearns that it no longer intends to recommend that the Commission bring a civil enforcement action against Bear Stearns in connection with this matter. The Staff has informed Bear Stearns that the investigation relating to Bear Stearns is now closed.

BSAM-Managed Hedge Fund Matters

The Company, Bear Stearns, BSAM, BSSC and certain individual employees have been named as defendants in an action filed on August 6, 2007 in New York State Supreme Court. The action is styled as both a purported class action on behalf of purchasers of partnership interests in Bear Stearns High Grade Structured Credit Strategies, L.P. (the "Partnership"), which invested substantially all of its assets in the Bear Stearns High Grade Structured Credit Strategies Master Fund, Ltd. (the "High Grade Fund"), for which BSAM served as investment manager, as well as a derivative action on behalf of the Partnership as a nominal defendant. The Complaint asserts claims for breaches of fiduciary duty against BSAM and the individual defendants based on allegations of mismanagement of the High Grade Fund. The remaining defendants are charged with having aided and abetted in the breaches of fiduciary duty. The named plaintiff in this action alleges that it purchased in excess of \$700,000 of Partnership interests. The relief being sought by the plaintiff is unspecified damages, costs and fees.

On August 1, 2007, Bear Stearns, BSAM, BSSC, and certain individual employees were named as respondents in an NASD arbitration brought by an investor in the Partnership alleging misrepresentations in connection with his investment. The statement of claim in this matter was subsequently amended to add two additional investor-claimants. The relief being sought by the claimants in this arbitration is compensatory damages of \$1,000,000, unspecified punitive damages, costs and expenses.

The Company believes it has substantial defenses to claims asserted against it in these proceedings.

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Additionally, the Company has been contacted by and received requests for information and documents from various federal and state regulatory and law enforcement authorities regarding the High Grade Fund and the Bear Stearns High Grade Structured Credit Strategies Enhanced Leverage Master Fund, Ltd.

66

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

The following is added to the risk factors set forth under Part II, Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in the Company's 2006 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our Capital Markets segment may continue to be adversely affected by the current global credit crisis and repricing of credit risk. During the Company's third fiscal quarter ended August 31, 2007, a global credit crisis coupled with the repricing of credit risk created extremely difficult market conditions. These conditions resulted in greater volatility, less liquidity, widening of credit spreads and a lack of price transparency. The Company's Capital Markets segment operates in these markets with exposure in securities, loans, derivatives and other commitments. It is difficult to predict how long these conditions will exist and which markets, products and businesses of the Company will continue to be affected. As a result, these factors could adversely impact the Company's results of operations.

67

Item 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The table below sets forth the information with respect to purchases made by the Company of the Company's common stock during the third quarter of fiscal 2007:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (1)	Approximate Value of May Year Under Pr
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
6/1/07 - 6/30/07	1,717,200	\$ 143.73	1,717,200	\$ 1,1
7/1/07 - 7/31/07	1,817,300	136.04	1,817,300	9
8/1/07 - 8/31/07	7,000	103.37	7,000	9
Total	3,541,500	139.70	3,541,500	

(1) On December 13, 2006, the Board of Directors of the Company approved an amendment to the Stock Repurchase Program ("Repurchase Program") to replenish the previous authorizations to allow the Company to purchase up to \$2.0 billion of common stock in fiscal 2007 and beyond. During the quarter ended August 31, 2007, the Company purchased under the current authorization a total of 3,514,657 shares at a cost of approximately of \$491.0 million. On September 18, 2007, the Board of Directors approved an amendment to the Repurchase Program authorizing the purchase of up to \$2.5 billion of common stock in fiscal 2007 and beyond. The amendment supersedes the previous \$2.0 billion authorization, under which the Company had acquired approximately \$1.3 billion of common stock. The Repurchase Program will be used to acquire shares of common stock for the

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 10-Q

Company's employee stock compensation plans and for up to \$1.0 billion in corporate share repurchases. Pursuant to a \$200 million CAP Plan Earnings Purchase Authorization, which was approved by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company on December 12, 2006, during the quarter ended August 31, 2007, the Company purchased a total of 26,843 shares of its common stock at a total cost of \$3.8 million.

68

Item 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibits

- (11) Computation of Per Share Earnings. (The calculation of per share earnings is in Note 9, "Earnings Per Share," of Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Earnings Per Share) and is omitted here in accordance with Section (b) (11) of Item 601 of Regulation S-K)
- (12) Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends
- (15) Letter re: Unaudited Interim Financial Information
- (31.1) Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- (31.2) Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- (32.1) Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- (32.2) Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

69

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.

(Registrant)

Date: October 10, 2007

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Farber
Jeffrey M. Farber
Senior Vice President - Finance,
Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
FORM 10-Q

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. -----	Description -----	Page ----
(12)	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends	72
(15)	Letter re: Unaudited Interim Financial Information	73
(31.1)	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d -14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	75
(31.2)	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d -14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	76
(32.1)	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	77
(32.2)	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	78