

PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES

Form DEFA14A

April 21, 2008

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

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(a) OF THE SECURITIES

EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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- o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- o Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11( a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:  
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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:  
\_\_\_\_\_

(3) Filing Party:  
\_\_\_\_\_

(4) Date Filed:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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April 17, 2008

Dear Shareholder:

Following up on our reminder from last week, we are writing to you again regarding the May 7, 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Piper Jaffray Companies. According to our latest records, we have not received your vote. **The Board of Directors recommends that shareholders vote FOR all proposals to be voted on at the meeting.** As we discussed in our reminder last week, the proxy statement contains a proposal to approve an amended and restated version of our 2003 Annual and Long-Term Incentive Plan, which is being amended and restated principally to increase the number of shares available for grant. The increase in shares will allow us to further our goal of aligning employees' interests with the interests of shareholders, will foster an ownership culture among employees, will assist in the recruitment and retention of employees, and will allow us to pay a portion of our incentive compensation in equity, in lieu of cash. **Your vote FOR the Incentive Plan is particularly important. Absent shareholder approval of the Incentive Plan, our ability to make year-end equity awards to employees will be severely limited. The meeting is fast approaching, so please cast your vote TODAY** by telephone, via the Internet or by signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card. By doing so, you will help us achieve our strategic goals and reduce further costs associated with solicitation.

Sincerely,

Andrew Duff

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

**IMPORTANT**

**To vote your shares by telephone or the Internet,  
follow the instructions on the enclosed card.**

If you have any questions, or need assistance in voting your shares, please call our proxy solicitor, Innisfree M&A, at the following

**TOLL-FREE number:  
1-888-750-5834**