

PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES  
Form 8-K  
November 12, 2008

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported):

November 11, 2008

Piper Jaffray Companies

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

1-31720

30-0168701

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 800, Minneapolis,  
Minnesota

55402

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(612) 303-6000

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))



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**Item 5.04 Temporary Suspension of Trading Under Registrant's Employee Benefit Plans.**

Pursuant to Regulation BTR (Blackout Trading Restriction), Piper Jaffray Companies (the "Company") provided an updated notice to its directors and executive officers today regarding trading restrictions applicable to the directors and executive officers in connection with the Company's previously-announced decision to change the third party administrator for the Company's Retirement Plan (the "Plan") from Milliman to Wells Fargo Retirement Plan Solutions. This transition, which was previously scheduled to occur effective October 1, 2008, had been postponed due to market volatility. The Company has now decided to again proceed with the transition from Milliman to Wells Fargo, and the effective date of the transition will be December 1, 2008.

The updated notice provided that in connection with this rescheduled transition, a "blackout period" will be imposed during which employees of the Company will not be able to make any changes to their investments in the Plan or obtain loans or distributions from the Plan. The updated notice also informed the directors and executive officers that they are generally prohibited from trading during the blackout period any Company equity securities acquired in connection with service as a director or executive officer of the Company. The blackout period will begin on November 20, 2008 and is expected to end no later than December 19, 2008.

The person designated by the Company to respond to inquiries about the blackout period is Anne Johnson, Head of Human Resources, and her phone number is (612) 303-8092 and her address is 800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 800, Mail Stop J09N04, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

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**SIGNATURES**

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Piper Jaffray Companies

*November 11, 2008*

By: *James L. Chosy*

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*Name: James L. Chosy*

*Title: General Counsel and Secretary*