

SCHEFFEL WILLIAM N
Form 4
December 14, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
SCHEFFEL WILLIAM N

(Last) (First) (Middle)
7711 CARONDELET AVENUE
(Street)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CENTENE CORP [CNC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/10/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
Exec VP, CFO & Treasurer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
X Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/10/2009		A	V A	Amount 25,000 Price \$ 18.98	111,031 ⁽¹⁾	D

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Principal Amount or Number of Shares
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 15.35					12/01/2008 12/01/2013	Common Stock	28,486
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 16.65					05/04/2009 05/04/2014	Common Stock	30,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 26.07					12/08/2009 12/08/2014	Common Stock	50,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 32.06					07/26/2010 07/26/2015	Common Stock	25,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.4					12/13/2010 12/13/2015	Comon Stock	10,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.21					12/12/2011 12/12/2016	Common Stock	10,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Reporting Owners

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Director 10% Owner Officer

Other

SCHEFFEL WILLIAM N
7711 CARONDELET AVENUE
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

Exec VP, CFO & Treasurer

Signatures

/s/ William N.
Scheffel

12/14/2009

__Signature of
Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Ownership includes this award of 25,000 restricted stock units which vest in three annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date. In addition, ownership includes previous awards of 37,000 restricted stock units which are subject to vesting requirements.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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