Burbach Gerhard F Form 4 November 27, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average burden hours per

obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

0.5 response...

1(b).

Form 5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Burbach Gerhard F			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol THORATEC CORP [THOR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
			(Month/Day/Year)	_X_ Director 10% Owner		
6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE			11/23/2012	_X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)		
				Chief Executive Officer		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line)		
PLEASANTON, CA 94588				_X_Form filed by One Reporting PersonForm filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivativ	e Secu	rities Acqui	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securionor Dispo (Instr. 3,	sed of 4 and (A) or	` '	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	11/23/2012(3)		M	5,000	A	\$ 17.91	140,538	D	
Common Stock	11/26/2012(3)		M	6,600	A	\$ 17.91	147,138	D	
Common Stock	11/23/2012(3)		S	5,000	D	\$ 38.0099 (4)	142,138	D	
Common Stock	11/26/2012(3)		S	6,600	D	\$ 38.1522 (5)	135,538	D	

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

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

SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		tive Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) of		7. Title and Ame Underlying Sect (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An or Ni of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.91	11/23/2012(3)		M	5,000	02/13/2008(2)	02/13/2017	Common Stock	5
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.91	11/26/2012(3)		M	6,600	02/13/2008(2)	02/13/2017	Common Stock	ϵ

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
reporting owner runner runners	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Burbach Gerhard F 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE PLEASANTON, CA 94588	X		Chief Executive Officer				

Signatures

/s/David A. Lehman,
Attorney-In-Fact

**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) Options were granted pursuant to the Company's equity incentive plan with no payments received for the options.
- (2) Options vest in four equal annual installments commencing one year after the grant date.

Reporting Owners 2

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- Options exercised and shares of Common Stock sold pursuant to a Sales Plan established by the Reporting Person on February 28, 2012, (3) which Sales Plan is intended to comply with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- This transaction was executed in multiple trades in prices ranging from \$38.00 to \$38.05. The price reported above reflects the weighted average sale price. The Reporting Person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the Issuer, or a stockholder of the Issuer, information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.
- This transaction was executed in multiple trades in prices ranging from \$38.00 to \$38.33. The price reported above reflects the weighted (5) average sale price. The Reporting Person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the Issuer, or a stockholder of the Issuer, information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.