THORATEC CORP Form 4 March 05, 2010

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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Form 5 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Smith David V Issuer Symbol THORATEC CORP [THOR] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE 03/03/2010 below) CFO & EVP (Street)

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

(Zip)

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

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

(State)

(City)

(,)	()	Table	e I - Non-D	erivative S	ecurit	ies Acq	juirea, Disposea (of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securiti	ies Ac	quired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction(A) or Disposed of			Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4	and 5	5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
							Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
					()		Reported		
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
			C = V	A	or	ъ.	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
~			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price			
Common	03/03/2010		A	11,734	Α	\$ 0	59,992	D	
Stock (2)	03/03/2010		11	11,/34	11	(1)	37,772	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and A Underlying Se (Instr. 3 and 4
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 29.81	03/03/2010		A	23,468	03/03/2011(3)	03/03/2020	Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Smith David V

6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE CFO & EVP

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

Signatures

/s/David V. Smith 03/05/2010

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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 and restricted stock units were granted pursuant to the Company's equity incentive plan with no payments received for either.
- (2) Represents restricted stock units. Each restricted stock unit represents a right to receive one share of Thoratec Corporation common stock upon vesting. The restricted stock units vest in four equal annual installments commencing one year after the grant date.
- (3) Options vest in four equal annual installments commencing one year after the grant date.

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.

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