THORATEC CORP Form 4

December 29, 2010

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287

Washington, D.C. 20549

Number: January 31, 2005

0.5

OMB APPROVAL

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per

burden hours per response...

Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction

Check this box

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *Smith David V

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

THORATEC CORP [THOR]

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

____ Director _____ 10% Owner X__ Officer (give title _____ Other (specify

6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE

(Street)

(State)

(Month/Day/Year) 12/29/2010

below) below)

CFO & EVP

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

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

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

(City)

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Transaction(A) or Disposed of Securities
Code (D) Beneficially
(Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned

5. Amount of Securities Form: Direct Indirect
Beneficially (D) or Beneficial
Owned Indirect (I) Ownership
Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)
Reported

D

(A) or Code V Amount (D)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Common 12/29/2010 Stock

F Amount (D) Price 3,112 B 28.6

55,324

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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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transact Code (Instr. 8)	orNumber of Derivativ Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	:		Amou Under Securi (Instr.	lying	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

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 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) Shares tendered in payment of the tax withholding obligation.

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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