

THORATEC CORP  
Form 4  
September 17, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
Cohen Lawrence

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE  
(Street)

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
THORATEC CORP [THOR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
09/16/2009

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Division President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	09/16/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	A	\$ 3,387	35,563	D
Common Stock	09/16/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	A	\$ 16,613	52,176	D
Common Stock	09/16/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>		S	D	\$ 20,000	32,176	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)

number.

**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. 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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.97	09/16/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	3,387	06/05/2004 <sup>(2)</sup> 06/05/2013	Common Stock	3,387
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 12.45	09/16/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	16,613	10/14/2004 <sup>(3)</sup> 04/14/2014	Common Stock	16,613

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Cohen Lawrence 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE PLEASANTON, CA 94588			Division President	

## Signatures

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

09/17/2009

\_\_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).

Option exercised and shares of Common Stock sold pursuant to a Sales Plan established by the Reporting Person on August 10, 2009,

(1) 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.

(2) Shares vested in four equal installments commencing one year after the grant date.

(3) Shares vest in six equal installments commencing 6 months after the grant date.

(4) Option was granted pursuant to the Company's Incentive Stock Plan with no payment received for the option.

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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