

Burbach Gerhard F
 Form 4
 November 27, 2012

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 *
 Burbach Gerhard F

(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)
 11/23/2012

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)
 Chief Executive Officer

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	11/23/2012 ⁽³⁾		M		5,000	A	\$ 17.91
Common Stock	11/26/2012 ⁽³⁾		M		6,600	A	\$ 17.91
Common Stock	11/23/2012 ⁽³⁾		S		5,000	D	\$ 38.0099
Common Stock	11/26/2012 ⁽³⁾		S		6,600	D	\$ 38.1522

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- (3) Options exercised and shares of Common Stock sold pursuant to a Sales Plan established by the Reporting Person on February 28, 2012, 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.

- (4) 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.

- (5) This transaction was executed in multiple trades in prices ranging from \$38.00 to \$38.33. 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.

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.