

Burbach Gerhard F  
 Form 4  
 November 27, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
 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)  
 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 11/23/2012

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

Chief Executive Officer

(Street)  
 PLEASANTON, CA 94588

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

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	11/23/2012 <sup>(3)</sup>		M		5,000	A	\$ 17.91
Common Stock	11/26/2012 <sup>(3)</sup>		M		6,600	A	\$ 17.91
Common Stock	11/23/2012 <sup>(3)</sup>		S		5,000	D	\$ 38.0099
Common Stock	11/26/2012 <sup>(3)</sup>		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.