

THORATEC CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 21, 2003

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): October 21, 2003

**THORATEC CORPORATION**

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*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*  
**California**

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*(State of Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)*

**1-8145**

**94-2340464**

*(Commission File Number)*

*(IRS Employer Identification Number)*

**6035 Stoneridge Drive  
Pleasanton, California 94588**

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*(Address of principal executive offices including zip code)*  
**(925) 847-8600**

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*(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)*  
**Not Applicable**

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*(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)*

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***Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure***

See Item 12

***Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition***

On October 21, 2003, Thoratec Corporation (the Company) issued a press release announcing its fiscal 2003 third quarter results, the text of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit, is furnished pursuant to Item 12 and shall not be deemed filed for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities under that Section. Furthermore, the information in the Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit, shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the filings of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirement of the Security Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date: October 21, 2003

THORATEC CORPORATION

By: /s/ M. Wayne Boylston

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M. Wayne Boylston  
*Senior Vice President, Chief Financial  
Officer and Secretary*

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EXHIBIT INDEX

<b><u>Exhibit No.</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
99.1	Press Release dated October 21, 2003