

Lehman David Aaron
Form 4
August 29, 2008

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Lehman David Aaron

(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)

08/28/2008

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

SVP and General Counsel

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
__X__ 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)
Common Stock	08/28/2008		M	20,708	A \$ 11.79	44,262	D
Common Stock	08/28/2008		S	700	D \$ 26.45	43,562	D
Common Stock	08/28/2008		S	4,000	D \$ 26.52	39,562	D
Common Stock	08/28/2008		S	5,000	D \$ 26.55	34,562	D
Common Stock	08/28/2008		S	608	D \$ 26.58	33,954	D

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Common Stock	08/28/2008	S	100	D	\$ 26.59	33,854	D
Common Stock	08/28/2008	S	10,200	D	\$ 26.6	23,654	D
Common Stock	08/28/2008	S	100	D	\$ 26.62	23,554	D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

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)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.97	08/28/2008		M		16,708		04/21/2004 ⁽¹⁾	04/21/2013	Common Stock	16,708
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.97	08/28/2008		M		4,000		04/21/2004 ⁽¹⁾	04/21/2013	Common Stock	4,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
Lehman David Aaron 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE PLEASANTON, CA 94588	SVP and General Counsel

Signatures

David Lehman

08/29/2008

__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) Option vests in four equal annual installments commencing one year after the grant date.
 - (2) Option was granted pursuant to the Company's equity incentive plan with no payment received for the grant.

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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