

THORATEC CORP

Form 4

May 18, 2006

**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  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**HOLBROOK GEORGE W JR**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE

(Street)

PLEASANTON, CA 94551

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
05/16/2006

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)

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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired<br>(A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common<br>Stock                       | 05/16/2006                              |                                                             | M                                       | 1,875 A                                                                 | \$ 11.06 9,375                                                                                                     | D                                                                          |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 05/18/2006                              |                                                             | S                                       | 1,875 D                                                                 | \$ 15.627 7,500                                                                                                    | D                                                                          |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                         |                                                                         | 137,216                                                                                                            | I                                                                          | Bradley<br>Resources<br>Company<br>(3)                            |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
required to respond unless the form**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |     | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                    |                 |                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                    | V                                                                                                               | (A)                                                            | (D) | Date Exercisable                                               | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(right to buy)     | \$ 11.06                                                              | 05/16/2006                              |                                                             | M                                       |                                                                                                                 | 1,875                                                          |     | 05/24/2001 <sup>(1)</sup>                                      | 05/24/2006         | Common<br>Stock | 1                                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                        | Relationships |           |         |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|                                                                       | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| HOLBROOK GEORGE W JR<br>6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE<br>PLEASANTON, CA 94551 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/ David Lehman,  
Attorney-In-Fact

05/18/2006

\*\*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) This option is 100% vested on the grant date.
- (2) This option was granted pursuant to the Company's equity incentive plans as a non-qualified option with no payment received for the option.
- (3) Common Stock held by Bradley Resources Company, an investment partnership. Mr. Holbrook is a general partner of Bradley Resources Company.

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.