

THORATEC CORP  
 Form S-8  
 May 22, 2008

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 22, 2008

Registration No. 333-

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**  
**FORM S-8**  
**REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER**  
**THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**  
**THORATEC CORPORATION**  
 (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**California** **94-2340464**  
 (State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. employer identification No.)  
 incorporation or organization)

**6035 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, California 94588**  
 (Address of principal executive offices)

**AMENDED AND RESTATED 2006 INCENTIVE STOCK PLAN**  
 (Full title of the Plan)

**Gerhard F. Burbach**  
**Thoratec Corporation**  
**6035 Stoneridge Drive**  
**Pleasanton, California 94588**  
 (Name and address of agent for service)

**(925) 847-8600**

(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
 Accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered (1)	Proposed maximum offering price per share (2)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price (2)	Amount of registration fee
2006 Incentive Stock Plan, Common Stock, no par value	3,200,000	\$ 15.90	\$50,880,000	\$2,000

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a), this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional Common Stock that may be offered or issued in connection with any stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration, which results in an increase in the number of the outstanding shares of Common Stock.
  
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the price per share and aggregate offering price are based upon the average of the high and low prices per share of Common Stock of Thoratec Corporation on May 19, 2008 as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select

Market.

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**INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE  
PURSUANT TO GENERAL INSTRUCTION E OF FORM S-8**

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 is filed by Thoratec Corporation, a California corporation ( Thoratec ), relating to 3,200,000 shares of its common stock, no par value per share (the Common Stock ), issuable to eligible directors, employees and consultants of Thoratec and its affiliates under the Amended and Restated 2006 Incentive Stock Plan (the Plan ). On June 15, 2006, Thoratec filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission ) a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-135047)(the Prior Registration Statement ) relating to shares of Common Stock issuable to eligible directors, employees and consultants of Thoratec and its affiliates under the Plan. The Prior Registration Statement is currently effective. This Registration Statement relates to securities of the same class as those to which the Prior Registration Statement relates and is submitted in accordance with Section E of the General Instructions to Form S-8 regarding Registration of Additional Securities.

**ITEM 3. INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

The following documents filed with the Commission by Thoratec are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement:

- (a) Thoratec s Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-135047), filed with the Commission on June 15, 2006;
- (b) Thoratec s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2007, including all material incorporated by reference therein;
- (c) Thoratec s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 29, 2008, including all material incorporated by reference therein;
- (d) Thoratec s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on February 29, 2008;
- (e) The description of Thoratec s common stock contained in Thoratec s registration statement on Form 8-A, filed May 18, 1981, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ( Exchange Act ), including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating that description; and
- (f) The description of Thoratec s Rights Agreement and Preferred Stock Purchase Rights contained in Thoratec s registration statement on Form 8-A, filed May 3, 2002, under the Exchange Act, including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating that description.

All documents subsequently filed by Thoratec pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be part thereof from the date of filing of such documents; provided, however, that Thoratec is not incorporating any information furnished in any Current Report on Form 8-K.

Any document, and any statement contained in a document, incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein, or in any other subsequently filed document that also is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, modifies or supersedes such document or statement. Any such document or statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement. Subject to the foregoing, all information appearing in this Registration Statement is qualified in its entirety by the information appearing in the documents incorporated by reference herein.

**ITEM 8. EXHIBITS**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
5.1	Opinion of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
23.2	Consent of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP (contained in Exhibit 5.1)
24.1	Power of Attorney (included on the signature pages to this Registration Statement on Form S-8)
99.1	Amended and Restated 2006 Incentive Stock Plan (1)

(1) Filed as an  
Exhibit to  
Thoratec's Form  
8-K filed with  
the Commission  
on May 22,  
2008.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement on Form S-8 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Pleasanton, State of California, on this 22nd day of May, 2008.

THORATEC CORPORATION

By: /s/ Gerhard F. Burbach  
Gerhard F. Burbach  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

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**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Gerhard F. Burbach and David A. Lehman, and each of them, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, to act for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement on Form S-8 and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing which they, or any of them, may deem necessary or advisable to be done in connection with this Registration Statement on Form S-8 as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or any substitute or substitutes for any or all of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In accordance with the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of Thoratec Corporation and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
/s/ Gerhard F. Burbach Gerhard F. Burbach	Chief Executive Officer, President and Director	May 22, 2008
/s/ David V. Smith David V. Smith	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	May 22, 2008
/s/ Neil F. Dimick Neil F. Dimick	Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors	May 22, 2008
/s/ J. Donald Hill J. Donald Hill	Director and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors	May 22, 2008
/s/ Howard E. Chase Howard E. Chase	Director	May 22, 2008
/s/ J. Daniel Cole J. Daniel Cole	Director	May 22, 2008
/s/ Steven H. Collis Steven H. Collis	Director	May 22, 2008
/s/ Elisha W. Finney Elisha W. Finney	Director	May 22, 2008

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/s/ D. Keith Grossman

Director

May 22, 2008

D. Keith Grossman

/s/ Daniel M. Mulvena

Director

May 22, 2008

Daniel M. Mulvena

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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