THORATEC CORP Form 4 May 18, 2006

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Washington, D.C. 20549

January 31, Expires: 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address HOLBROOK GE		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last) (F	irst) (Middle)	THORATEC CORP [THOR] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
6035 STONERID		(Month/Day/Year) 05/16/2006	_X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)		
(St	reet)	4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
PLEASANTON, O	CA 94551	Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

PLEASA	NTON,	CA	9455	

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivativ	e Secu	rities Acqu	iired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficia	ally 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. Securi or(A) or D (Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A) or	d of (D)	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	05/16/2006		M	1,875	A	\$ 11.06	9,375	D	
Common Stock	05/18/2006		S	1,875	D	\$ 15.627	7,500	D	
Common Stock							137,216	I	Bradley Resources Company

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

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displays a currently valid OMB control

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)	of Derivative Expiration Date Securities (Month/Day/Year) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,		7. Title and Ame Underlying Sect (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An or No of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.06	05/16/2006		M	1,875	05/24/2001(1)	05/24/2006	Common Stock	1

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HOLBROOK GEORGE W JR 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE 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.

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