

THORATEC CORP  
Form 4  
May 27, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**HILL J DONALD**

(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)  
**05/23/2008**

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 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	05/23/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		A		5,000	A	\$ 0 <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock					906,170	I	By Separate Property Trust <sup>(3)</sup>

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

Table with 10 columns: 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), 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5), 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5), 10. Amount or Number of Shares.

Reporting Owners

Table with columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other). Row: HILL J DONALD, 6035 STONERIDGE DRIVE, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, X.

Signatures

/s/David A. Lehman, Attorney-In-Fact, 05/27/2008. \*\*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) Restricted Stock was granted on May 23, 2008. The vesting commencement for the Restricted Stock is retroactive to May 20, 2008. The Restricted Stock vests in four equal annual installments commencing one year after that date.
(2) Restricted stock was granted pursuant to the Company's 2006 Incentive Stock Plan with no payment received for the restricted stock.
(3) J. Donald Hill as Trustee of the J. Donald Hill Separate Property Living Trust U/A/D 7/23/04.

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.