

THORATEC CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 28, 2010

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

**FORM 8-K**

**Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): October 28, 2010**

**THORATEC CORPORATION**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**California**

*(State of Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)*

**000-49798**

**94-2340464**

*(Commission File Number)*

*(IRS Employer Identification Number)*

**6035 Stoneridge Drive  
Pleasanton, California 94588**

*(Address of principal executive offices including zip code)*

**(925) 847-8600**

*(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)*

**Not Applicable**

*(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)*

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition**

On October 28, 2010, Thoratec Corporation (the Company ) issued a press release announcing its third quarter ended October 2, 2010 results, the text of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit, is furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 and shall not be deemed filed for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities under that Section. Furthermore, the information in the Current Report on Form 8-K, including the exhibit, shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the filings of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

**(c) Exhibits**

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Exhibit</b>  |
|------------|---|
| 99.1       | Press Release, dated October 28, 2010, regarding results for the third quarter ended October 2, 2010. |

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**Signature**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated as of October 28, 2010

**THORATEC CORPORATION**

By: /s/ David Smith  
David Smith  
*Executive Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer*

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|--------------------|---|
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