CENTENE CORP Form 4 October 04, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

response...

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box

if no longer

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

DITMORE ROBERT K

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

See Instruction

CENT			NTENE CORP [CNC]				(Check all applicable)					
(Last) (First) (Middle) 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE, SUITE 800			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2005					X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)				
(Street) ST. LOUIS, MO 63105				4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
	(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivative S	ecurit	ies Acqu	ired, Disposed of,	or Beneficial	ly Owned	
	1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2005		Date, if	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) Code V	4. Securities oner Dispose (Instr. 3, 4) Amount 794.281	d of (Ľ))	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							23.10	15,250	I	By spouse (3)	
	Common Stock								5,600	I	See Footnote	
	Common Stock								59,200	I	See Footnote (2)	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

 Title of 	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	J
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	,
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)]
	Derivative				Securities	1		(Instr.	3 and 4)		(
	Security				Acquired]
					(A) or						J
					Disposed						-
					of (D)						(
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
									or		
						Date	Expiration	Title	Number		
						Exercisable	Date	11110	of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		
				Code v	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
DITMORE ROBERT K 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE SUITE 800 ST. LOUIS, MO 63105	X							

Signatures

/s/ Karey L. Witty (executed by 10/04/2005 attorney-in-fact) **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).
- Owned by the Ditmore 2002 Charitable Remainder Trust, of which Mr. Ditmore is a co-trustee, Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial (1) ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- Owned by the Ditmore Family Management Company LLC, of which Mr. Ditmore is a chief manager. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial (2) ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- (3) Shares owned by spouse who shares Mr. Ditmore's household. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by his spouse, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported

Reporting Owners 2

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shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

(4) Shares represent restricted stock units reserved in lieu of cash payment of fees under the Company's Non-employee Directors Deferred Stock Compensation Plan

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.