

THORATEC CORP
Form 425
March 26, 2009

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**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): March 26, 2009

THORATEC CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

000-49798

94-2340464

(Commission File Number)

*(I.R.S. 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 8.01 Other Events

On March 26, 2009, Thoratec Corporation (Thoratec) and HeartWare International, Inc. (HeartWare) issued a joint press release announcing that they each received a Request for Additional Information, or a second request, from the United States Federal Trade Commission (the FTC) in connection with the FTC 's review under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 of Thoratec 's proposed acquisition of HeartWare pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of February 12, 2009, by and among Thoratec, HeartWare, Thomas Merger Sub I, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Thoratec, and Thomas Merger Sub II, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Thoratec.

A copy of the joint press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Additional Information about the Mergers and Where to Find it

Thoratec will file a Registration Statement on Form S-4 containing a proxy statement/prospectus and other documents concerning the proposed acquisition with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). **Investors are urged to read the proxy statement/prospectus when it becomes available and other relevant documents filed with the SEC because they will contain important information.** Security holders may obtain a free copy of the proxy statement/prospectus (when it is available) and other documents filed by Thoratec and HeartWare with the SEC at the SEC 's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. The proxy statement/prospectus and other documents may also be obtained free of charge by contacting Thoratec Investor Relations at ir@thoratec.com or by telephone at (925) 847-8600 or by contacting HeartWare by e-mail at enquiries@heartware.com.au or by telephone at 61 2 9238 2064.

Thoratec, HeartWare and their respective directors, executive officers, certain members of management and certain employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in connection with the proposed merger. A description of the interests in HeartWare of its directors and executive officers is set forth in HeartWare 's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 filed with the SEC on February 26, 2009.

Information concerning Thoratec 's directors and executive officers is set forth in Thoratec 's proxy statement for its 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which was filed with the SEC on April 16, 2008. This document is available free of charge at the SEC 's web site at www.sec.gov or by going to Thoratec 's Investors page on its corporate web site at www.Thoratec.com. Additional information regarding the persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be deemed participants in the solicitation of proxies in connection with the proposed merger, and a description of their direct and indirect interests in the proposed merger, which may differ from the interests of HeartWare stockholders or Thoratec shareholders generally will be set forth in the proxy statement/prospectus when it is filed with the SEC.

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Forward-Looking Statements

This document includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements can be identified by the words, believes, views, expects, projects, hopes, could, will, intends, should, estimate, would, and other similar words. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking information, and are based on Thoratec's current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections. The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements: failure of HeartWare's stockholders to approve the proposed transaction; the challenges and costs of closing, integrating, restructuring and achieving anticipated synergies; the ability to retain key employees; and other economic, business, competitive, and/or regulatory factors affecting the businesses of Thoratec and HeartWare generally, including those set forth in the filings of Thoratec and HeartWare with the Securities and Exchange Commission, especially in the Risk Factors and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations sections of their respective annual reports on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, their current reports on Form 8-K and other SEC filings. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. Thoratec undertakes no obligation to publicly release the results of any revisions or updates to these forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof, or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release, dated March 26, 2009, issued jointly by Thoratec Corporation and HeartWare International, Inc.

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SIGNATURES

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 March 26, 2009

THORATEC CORPORATION

By: /s/ Gerhard F. Burbach

Name: Gerhard F. Burbach

Title: President and Chief Executive
Officer

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| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated March 26, 2009, issued jointly by Thoratec Corporation and HeartWare International, Inc. |