

THORATEC CORP  
Form S-8  
June 18, 2003

**Table of Contents**

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 18, 2003

Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM S-8**

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

**THORATEC CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**California**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**94-2340464**  
(I.R.S. employer identification No.)

6035 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, California 94588  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**1997 STOCK OPTION PLAN, AS AMENDED**  
**1996 NONEMPLOYEE DIRECTORS STOCK OPTION PLAN, AS AMENDED**  
(Full title of the Plan)

D. Keith Grossman  
Thoratec Corporation  
6035 Stoneridge Drive  
Pleasanton, California 94588  
(Name and address of agent for service)  
(925) 847-8600  
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

**Copy to:**  
**Kyle Guse**  
**Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP**  
**275 Middlefield Road**  
**Menlo Park, California 94025-3506**  
**(650) 324-7000**

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

<b>Title of securities to be registered</b>	<b>Amount to be registered (1)</b>	<b>Proposed maximum offering price per share (2)</b>	<b>Proposed maximum aggregate offering price</b>	<b>Amount of registration fee</b>
Common Stock, no par value	4,700,000	\$14.13	\$66,411,000	\$5,372.64

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a), this registration statement also covers any additional securities that may be offered or issued in connection with any stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction.
  - (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, on the basis of the average of the high and low prices per share of Common Stock of Thoratec Corporation on the Nasdaq National Market on June 13, 2003.
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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**PART II**

**ITEM 3. INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

**ITEM 4. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES**

**ITEM 5. INTERESTS OF NAMED EXPERTS AND COUNSEL**

**ITEM 6. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**ITEM 7. EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION CLAIMED**

**ITEM 8. EXHIBITS**

**ITEM 9. UNDERTAKINGS**

**SIGNATURES**

**Exhibit 5.1**

**Exhibit 23.1**

**Exhibit 99.1**

**Exhibit 99.2**

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**Table of Contents**

**PART II**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

**ITEM 3. INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

The following documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by Thoratec Corporation ( Thoratec ) are incorporated by reference in this registration statement:

- (a) Thoratec s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2002;
- (b) Thoratec s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 29, 2003;
- (c) The description of Thoratec s common stock contained in Thoratec s registration statement on Form 8-A, filed May 18, 1981, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ( Exchange Act ), including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating that description; and
- (d) The description of Thoratec s Rights Agreement and Preferred Stock Purchase Rights contained in Thoratec s registration statement on Form 8-A, filed May 3, 2002, under the Exchange Act, including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating that description.

All documents subsequently filed by Thoratec pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be part thereof from the date of filing of such documents.

**ITEM 4. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 5. INTERESTS OF NAMED EXPERTS AND COUNSEL**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 6. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

Pursuant to Section 204(a) and 317 of the California Corporations Code, Thoratec has included in its articles of incorporation and by-laws provisions regarding the indemnification of officers and directors of Thoratec. Article Fourth of Thoratec s Articles of Incorporation, as amended, provides as follows:

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**Table of Contents**

Fourth: The liability of the directors of this corporation for monetary damages shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permissible under California law. This corporation is also authorized, to the fullest extent permissible under California law, to indemnify its agents (as defined in Section 317 of the California Corporations Code), whether by-law, agreement or otherwise, in excess of the indemnification expressly permitted by Section 317 and to advance defense expenses to its agents in connection with such matters as they are incurred. If, after the effective date of this Article, California law is amended in a manner which permits a corporation to limit the monetary or other liability of its directors or to authorize indemnification of, or advancement of such defense expense to, its directors or other persons, in any such case to a greater extent than is permitted on such effective date, the references in this Article to California law shall to that extent be deemed to refer to California law as so amended.

Section 29 of Thoratec's By-laws, as amended, provides as follows:

29. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

(a) Indemnification. To the fullest extent permissible under California law, the corporation shall indemnify its directors and officers against all expenses, judgment, fines settlement and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any proceeding, including an action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, trustee, employee or agent of another corporation, or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise (including service with respect to employee benefit plans). To the fullest extent permissible under California law, expenses incurred by a director or officer seeking indemnification under this By-law in defending any proceeding shall be advanced by the corporation as they are incurred upon receipt by the corporation of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that the director or officer is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation for those expenses. If, after the effective date of this By-law, California law is amended in a manner which permits the corporation to authorize indemnification of or advancement of expense to its directors or officers, in any such case to a greater extent than is permitted on such effective date, the references in this By-law to California law shall to that extent be deemed to refer to California law as so amended. The rights granted by this By-law are contractual in nature and, as such, may not be altered with respect to any present or former director or officer without the written consent of that person.

(b) Procedure. Upon written request to the Board of Directors by a person seeking indemnification under this By-law, the Board shall promptly determine in accordance with Section 317(e) of the California Corporations Code whether the applicable standard of conduct has been met and, if so, the Board shall authorize indemnification. If the Board cannot authorize indemnification because the number of directors who are parties to the proceeding with respect to which indemnification is sought prevents the formation of a quorum of directors who are not parties to the proceeding, then, upon written request by the person seeking indemnification, independent legal counsel (by means of a written opinion obtained at the corporation's expense) or the corporation's shareholders shall determine whether the applicable standard of conduct has been met and, if so, shall authorize indemnification.

**Table of Contents**

(c) Definitions. The term proceeding means any threatened, pending or completed action or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative. The term expenses includes, without limitation, attorney's fees and any expenses of establishing a right to indemnification.

Thoratec has also entered into agreements with certain of its officers and directors to indemnify such persons within the limits set forth by California law and Thoratec's By-laws, as amended and its Articles of Incorporation, as amended.

ITEM 7. EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION CLAIMED

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. EXHIBITS

5.1	Opinion of Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP
23.1	Independent Auditors' Consent
23.2	Consent of Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP (filed as part of Exhibit 5)
24.1	Power of Attorney (see page II-5)
99.1	1997 Stock Option Plan, as amended
99.2	1996 Nonemployee Directors Stock Option Plan, as amended

ITEM 9. UNDERTAKINGS

A. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement;

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act);

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement;

**Table of Contents**

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement;

*provided, however*, that paragraphs A(1)(i) and A(1)(ii) shall not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold upon the termination of the offering.

B. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference into this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

C. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions described in Item 6, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.



**Table of Contents**

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Pleasanton, State of California, on this 18th day of June, 2003.

THORATEC CORPORATION

By: /s/D. Keith Grossman

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D. Keith Grossman, Chief Executive  
Officer and President

**POWER OF ATTORNEY TO SIGN AMENDMENTS**

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below does hereby constitute and appoint D. Keith Grossman and M. Wayne Boylston, and each of them, with full power of substitution and full power to act without the other, as such person's true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent for such person in such person's name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any or all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement on Form S-8 and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises in order to effectuate the same as fully, to all intents and purposes, as they or such person might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

II-5

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### Table of Contents

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement on Form S-8 has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>/s/D. Keith Grossman</u> D. Keith Grossman	Director, Chief Executive Officer and President	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/M. Wayne Boylston</u> M. Wayne Boylston	Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Secretary (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/J. Donald Hill</u> J. Donald Hill	Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/Howard E. Chase</u> Howard E. Chase	Director	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/J. Daniel Cole</u> J. Daniel Cole	Director	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/William M. Hitchcock</u> William M. Hitchcock	Director	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/ George W. Holbrook, Jr.</u> George W. Holbrook, Jr.	Director	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/Theo Melas-Kyriazi</u> Theo Melas-Kyriazi	Director	June 18, 2003
<u>/s/Daniel M. Mulvena</u> Daniel M. Mulvena	Director	June 18, 2003



**Table of Contents**

Index to Exhibits

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description of Item</b>
5.1	Opinion of Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP
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