FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL

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Estimated average burden
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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).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* ROSS JOSEPH J						2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol QUANEX CORP [ NX ]									S. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)     X Director 10% Owner					
(Last) 1900 WI SUITE 1	(F EST LOOP	(Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/15/2004									Officer below)	(give title		Other (s below)	specify			
(Street) HOUSTON TX			77027			If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing Line)  X Form filed by One Repropried by More that Person										porting Person				
(City) (State)		tate)	(Zip)												reison					
		Ta	ble I - Non	-Deriva	ativ	e Se	curit	ies A	Acquired, I	Disp	osed o	f, or Ben	eficia	ally	Owned					
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)			Date		nsaction h/Day/Year)		2A. De Execut if any (Month	ion Da	Code (Ir						5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported		Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
									Code	v	Amount	ount (A) or (D)		Tuonnana		tion(s)			,	
									quired, Di						wned					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Da if any (Month/Day/	Cc	Transaction Code (Instr.		of		Expiration Da	s. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)				9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)		10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Co	ode	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Ex Da	piration te	Title	Amou or Numb of Share	er						
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$25.95								10/31/2001	10	0/31/2011	Common Stock	2,00	0		2,000	)	D		
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$35.54								10/31/2002	10	0/31/2012	Common Stock	2,00	0	)		2,000 D			
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$35.85								05/23/2003	0:	5/22/2012	Common Stock	6,00	0		6,000	)	D		
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$40.05								10/31/2003	10	0/31/2013	Common Stock	2,00	0		2,000	)	D		
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$50.7								10/31/2004	10	0/31/2014	Common Stock	2,00	0		2,000	)	D		
Phantom Stock Units <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0 <sup>(2)</sup>	11/15/2004			A		22		11/15/2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/	/08/1988 <sup>(3)</sup>	Common Stock	22		\$55.39	3,936.45	501	D		
Phantom Stock Units <sup>(4)</sup>	\$0 <sup>(2)</sup>	11/15/2004			A		5		11/15/2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/	/08/1988 <sup>(3)</sup>	Common Stock	5		\$55.39	3,941.45	501	D		

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Units that are credited to the participants account under the Quanex Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan as a result of the participant's deferral of income or fees, as the case may be.
- 2. Conversion price is 1-for-1.
- 3. All units credited under the Deferred Compensation Plan are 100% vested at all times; provided, however, that if a participant receives a benefit from the Deferred Compensation Plan for any reason other than death, disability or retirement within three years after a deferral is credited to a participant's account, any matching awards made by the Company with respect to such deferral will be forfeited. Distributions under the Deferred Compensation Plan are made beginning on a specified date selected bythe participant or upon a participant's death, disability, or termination of employment.
- 4. Represents units credited to a participant's account under the Deferred Compensation Plan as a result of the Company's 20% matching award of the participant's deferral of income or fees, as the case may be.

<u>Terry M. Murphy, Power of</u> Attorney

11/16/2004

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- \* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.	