FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP	ON

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* BALLOU ROBERT C						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol QUANEX CORP [NX]								(Check all ap		olicable)		ssuer Owner (specify
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1900 WEST LOOP SOUTH SUITE 1500					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/02/2003									X	belov)` '
(Street) HOUSTON TX 77027 (City) (State) (Zip)						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transact Date (Month/Day						Execution Date,				ies Acquired (A) Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4			and 5) Sec Ben		ount of ities icially d Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
								Code	v	Amount	(<i>A</i>	A) or D)	Price		Transa	action(s) 3 and 4)		(11301. 4)
Common Stock 09/02/2						2003 09/02/2		2003	J ⁽¹⁾		26.542	2 A \$34		\$34.	.662 345.96		D	
	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																	
Derivative Conversion Date Execut Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any		3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Da	n Date, ay/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)			rative rities ired r osed)	6. Date Exerci Expiration Da (Month/Day/Yo		te	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amoun or Numbe of Title Shares		nstr. 3 nount mber	-		9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactions (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

Explanation of Responses:

1. Shares acquired through Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Robert C. Ballou by Terry M. Murphy, POA

09/03/2003

** 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.