FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washin

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| igton, D.C. 20549 | OMB APPROVAL |
|-------------------|--------------|
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| | |

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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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Mannion John J | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol $ \underbrace{QUANEX\ CORP}_{} \left[\ NX\ \right] $ | | | | | | (Ch | eck all applic | able) | g Person(s) to Issu 10% Ov | | /ner |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|------------|---|--|--------------------|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/30/2004 | | | | | | | below) | | | Other (specify below) | | |
| (Street) HOUST(| | | 77027 (Zip) | 4. | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | Line | ndividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable e) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - Non-D | Perivativ | e Sec | curitie | s A | cquired, Di | sposed o | f, or Bei | neficial | ly Owned | l | | | |
| Date | | | Transaction ate onth/Day/Y | Execution Date, | | Code (Inst | Transaction Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 Code (Instr. 5) | | | Benefici | es For ally (D) Following (I) (| | rm: Direct or Indirect (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transac (Instr. 3 | ion(s) | | | | | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Yea | Code | | n of | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4) | lly | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | |
| Stock Options (Right to buy) | \$45.05 | 08/30/2004 | | A | | 5,000 | | 08/31/2005 ⁽¹⁾ | 08/30/2015 | Common Stock | 5,000 | \$0 | 5,000 | | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. The option becomes exercisable in one third increments annually beginning one year from date of grant.

John J Mannion

08/31/2004

** 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.