FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPRO	OVAL					
OMB Number:	3235-0287					
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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* BALLOU ROBERT C						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol QUANEX CORP [NX]									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title V Other (spec					wner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1900 WEST LOOP SOUTH SUITE 1500						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/01/2005										belov	v) ``	X Other (specify below)			
(Street) HOUSTON TX 77027 (City) (State) (Zip)					4. If	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. Transac Date (Month/Da						Execution Da		Date,	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)						4 and See Be		ount of ities icially d Following ted	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	ect	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
						Code	v	Amount		A) or D)	Price		Transa	action(s) 3 and 4)			(msu. 4)				
Common Stock 02/01/2							02/02/	02/02/2005			21.694	4	A \$53		.01 9,075.92		D				
	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)	vative Conversion Date Execution or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any			n Date, Transaction Code (Inst					6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)					9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	hip D) ect	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code	v	(A)	(D)			Expiration Date	or Numbe of Title Shares		nber									

Explanation of Responses:

1. Shares acquired through Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

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

02/03/2005

** 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.

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