FORM 4

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

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OMB APPROVAL								
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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)

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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* ARREDONDO RICARDO					2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol QUANEX CORP [ NX ]						(Chec	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner  X Officer (give title Other (specify below)					
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1900 WEST LOOP SOUTH SUITE 1500			(Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/01/2004							Vice President - Controller					
(Street) HOUSTON TX 77027				4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)							Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City)	(3	State)	(Zip)								41						
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. T			Transac			ate, Transaction Dispose Code (Instr.		t, or Beneficially ( ties Acquired (A) or Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported		Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
								/ Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transactio (Instr. 3 an				(		
			Table II - De					quired, Dis				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 Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)		Derivative Ex		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	e C F Illy D o (I	0. Ownership form: Direct (D) or Indirect (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		Transaction (Instr. 4)	on(s)			
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$19.3667							02/26/2003	02/26/2013	Common Stock	6,250.5		6,250.	5	D		
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$26.4							12/04/2004	12/03/2013	Common Stock	11,250		11,250	0	D		
Phantom Stock Units <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0 <sup>(2)</sup>	12/01/2004		A		2,508.45		12/01/2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	08/08/1988 <sup>(3)</sup>	Common Stock	2,508.45	\$39.4667	2,508.4	45	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.
- 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.

Terry M. Murphy, Power of 01/10/2005 <u>Attorney</u>

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.