

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
|--|-----------|
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|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*</b><br><u>MURPHY TERRY M</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>1900 WEST LOOP SOUTH</u><br><u>SUITE 1500</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>HOUSTON TX 77027</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | <b>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</b><br><u>QUANEX CORP [ NX ]</u> | <b>5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</b><br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)<br><u>Vice President &amp; CFO</u> |
|  | <b>3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)</b><br><u>12/01/2003</u>    |  |
| <b>4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)</b>  |   |  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |   | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |            |           | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|-----------|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V | Amount  | (A) or (D) | Price     |   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    | 12/01/2003                           | 12/02/2003   | J <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 11.464  | A          | \$40.1254 | 5,234.642   | 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) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |   | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |     | 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 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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V | (A)  | (D) | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date |   |  |  |   |  |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$18.1875  |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | 10/27/2000   | 10/26/2010      | Common Stock  | 25,000                                     | 25,000   | D   |  |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$21.125   |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | 10/21/2000   | 10/20/2009      | Common Stock  | 13,334                                     | 13,334   | D   |  |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$26   |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | 10/24/2002   | 10/23/2011      | Common Stock  | 25,000                                     | 25,000   | D   |  |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$28.5   |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | 07/01/1999   | 07/01/2009      | Common Stock  | 3,334                                      | 3,334  | D   |  |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$32   |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | 12/05/2003   | 12/04/2012      | Common Stock  | 25,000                                     | 25,000   | D   |  |
| Phantom Stock Units                        | \$0  |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | 12/06/2001   | 08/08/1988      | Common Stock  | 12,118                                     | 12,118   | D   |  |

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. Shares acquired through Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Terry M Murphy

12/03/2003

\*\* 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.