

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**December 6, 2004**  
(Date of earliest event reported)

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**QUANEX CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**1-5725**  
(Commission File Number)

**38-1872178**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**1900 West Loop South, Suite 1500, Houston, Texas**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**77027**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **713-961-4600**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure**

This information shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

On December 2, 2004, Quanex Corporation issued a press release (the "Press Release") announcing that its Board of Directors raised the Company's common stock cash dividend. The Company also announced that in a separate action the Board of Directors declared a three for two stock split, to be issued in the form of a 50% stock dividend. The foregoing is qualified by reference to the Press Release which is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

Exhibit 99.1. Press release dated December 2, 2004

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**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**QUANEX CORPORATION**

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(Registrant)

**December 6, 2004**

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/s/ **RAYMOND A. JEAN**

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(Date)

RAYMOND A. JEAN  
*Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer*

## Quanex Increased Cash Dividend and Declared 3 for 2 Stock Split in the Form of a Stock Dividend

HOUSTON, Dec. 2, 2004 (PRIMEZONE) -- Quanex Corporation (NYSE:NX) today announced that its Board of Directors raised the Company's common stock cash dividend by 6.5%, or \$0.05 per share on an annualized basis. In a separate action, the Board declared a three for two stock split in the form of a 50% stock dividend.

"Quanex's stock split, and the increase in our cash dividend for the second time this year, are appropriate actions by the Board of Directors given record fiscal 2004 operating results, our high stock price and our very favorable business outlook," stated Raymond Jean, chairman and chief executive officer.

The increase in the quarterly cash dividend to \$0.2025 is prior to giving effect to the 50% stock dividend, and \$0.135 after giving effect to the 50% stock dividend. Both the cash dividend and the stock dividend are effective to shareholders of record on December 17, 2004. Both dividends will be paid on December 31, 2004.

Quanex is a \$1.5 billion industry-leading manufacturer of value-added, engineered materials and components serving the Vehicular Products and Building Products markets.

Statements that use the words "expect," "should," "believe," "will," "might," or similar words reflecting future expectations or beliefs are forward-looking statements. The statements found above are based on current expectations. Actual results or events may differ materially from this release. Factors that could impact future results may include, without limitation, the effect of both domestic and global economic conditions, the impact of competitive products and pricing, and the availability and cost of raw materials. For a more complete discussion of factors that may affect the Company's future performance, please refer to the Company's most recent 10-K filing (December 29, 2003) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, in particular the sections titled, "Private Securities Litigation Reform Act" contained therein.

For further information, visit the Company's website at [www.quanex.com](http://www.quanex.com).

The Quanex Corporation logo is available at: <http://www.primezone.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=1117>

### CONTACT:

Quanex Corporation

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