CENTENE CORP Form 4 December 17, 2004

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * NEIDORFF MICHAEL F		Symbol	er Name and Ticker or Trading	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer					
(Last)	(First) (M		ENE CORP [CNC] of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)					
7711 CARC AVENUE, S	NDELET		Day/Year)	_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Chairman, President and CEO					
	(Street)		endment, Date Original onth/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person					
ST. LOUIS,	MO 63105			Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City)	(State)	(Zip) 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. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or Code V Amount (D) Price	Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial Owned (D) or Ownership Following Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Reported (Instr. 4) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)					
Stock	12/15/2004		G V 6,000 D $^{\circ}_{59.47}$	155,010 D					

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

58.47

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		ate	7. Title a Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 a	of ng s	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title Nu of	umber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
FB	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
NEIDORFF MICHAEL F					
7711 CARONDELET AVENUE SUITE 800	X		Chairman, President and CEO		

Signatures

ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

/s/ Michael F.
Neidorff

**Signature of Reporting Person

12/17/2004

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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