

STRYKER CORP  
Form 8-K  
July 21, 2004

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): July 21, 2004

Commission file number: 0-9165

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**STRYKER CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

**Michigan**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**38-1239739**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**2725 Fairfield Road, Kalamazoo, Michigan**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**49002**

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(269) 385-2600**

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ITEM 7.	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(c) Exhibits

99.1

Press release dated July 21, 2004

ITEM 9.	REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE
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Stryker Corporation issued a press release on July 21, 2004 announcing that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire, by merger, all of the outstanding stock of SpineCore, Inc., a privately-owned developer of artificial lumbar and cervical discs located in Summit, New Jersey.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

#### SIGNATURES

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

STRYKER CORPORATION  
(Registrant)

July 21, 2004  
Date

/s/ DEAN H. BERGY  
Dean H. Bergy  
Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer and Secretary  
(Principal Financial Officer)

#### EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 Press release dated July 21, 2004