

NEIDORFF MICHAEL F  
 Form 5  
 February 13, 2009

**FORM 5**

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

OMB APPROVAL  
 OMB Number: 3235-0362  
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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).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**NEIDORFF MICHAEL F**  
  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)  
  
**7711 CARONDELET AVENUE**  
  
 (Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**CENTENE CORP [CNC]**

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/31/2008**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Chairman, President and CEO**

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

**ST. LOUIS, MO 63105**  
  
 (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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/23/2008		G	(A) or (D) Amount Price D \$ 12,585 19.2	1,433,051 (1)	D	

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

**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. 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Price of Underlying Security (Instr. 5)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer		Other
NEIDORFF MICHAEL F 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE ST. LOUIS, MO 63105	X			Chairman, President and CEO	

## Signatures

/s/ Eric R. Slusser (executed by attorney-in-fact) 02/13/2009

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person 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).
- (1) Mr. Neidorff's ownership includes previous awards of 1,200,000 restricted stock units subject to vesting requirements.
- Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.