

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

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

Date of Report: October 19, 2004

GENTEX CORPORATION  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Michigan (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	0-10235 (Commission File Number)	38-2030505 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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600 North Centennial Street Zeeland, Michigan (Address of principal executive office)	49464 (Zip Code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (616) 772-1800

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 Section Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 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)).

#### Section 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Conditions

On October 19, 2004, Gentex Corporation issued a news release announcing results for the 2004 third quarter and year to date. A copy of the news release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K.

The information in this Form 8-K and the attached Exhibit shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

#### Section 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibit

News Release Dated October 19, 2004.

#### SIGNATURE

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.

Dated: October 19, 2004

GENTEX CORPORATION  
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Enoch Jen  
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Enoch Jen  
Vice President - Finance and  
Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 News Release Dated October 19, 2004

## Gentex Reports Third Quarter Results

ZEELAND, Mich., Oct. 19 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Gentex Corporation (Nasdaq: GNTX), the Zeeland, Michigan-based manufacturer of automatic-dimming rearview mirrors and commercial fire protection products, today reported financial results for the third quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2004.

The Company reported a seven percent increase in revenues to a third-quarter record of \$120.5 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2004. Third quarter net income declined by two percent to \$25.2 million compared with \$25.7 million in the third quarter last year. Earnings per diluted share were 32 cents in the third quarter of 2004 compared with 33 cents in the same quarter last year.

For the first nine months of 2004, the Company reported a 10 percent increase in revenues to a record \$379.4 million. Net income increased by eight percent to \$84.0 million for the first nine months of 2004 compared with the same period last year. Earnings per diluted share were \$1.07 for the first nine months of 2004 compared with \$1.01 for the first nine months of 2003.

"We had a very challenging third quarter," said Gentex Executive Vice President Garth Deur. "While we reported an 11 percent increase in auto-dimming mirror unit shipments, start-up costs associated with new manufacturing initiatives, as well as normally scheduled model year price reductions made during the quarter, put downward pressure on our gross margin.

"During the third quarter, we introduced extensive new manufacturing improvements in each of our three automotive production facilities," said Deur. "And while we have always introduced new processes at the beginning of the model year, these involved a larger number of changes and more automation than usual. Our goal is that the improvements will produce a greater long-term payoff."

Deur said that the Company has seen consistent improvement in manufacturing yields from the new processes throughout the third quarter, and expects that they will continue to improve in the fourth quarter and beyond.

The Company continues to make progress in the development of SmartBeam(TM), the intelligent high-beam headlamp control system developed by the Company, and is making production shipments for the 2005 model year Jeep Grand Cherokee and Cadillac STS. Deur stated that the Company has been working under a letter of intent with a major European automaker to develop SmartBeam for a number of vehicle platforms that are expected to begin shipping in calendar 2006. The Company recently received a production purchase order for that business. A third North American program that was expected to be implemented in the mid 2005 model year has been postponed until the 2006 model year due to customer implementation issues.

Deur said that he believes the Company will show mirror unit shipment growth in the fourth quarter of approximately five to ten percent compared with the fourth quarter of 2003. This revised estimate reflects lower actual shipments to date, as well as lower expected unit shipments for the duration of the quarter, to certain of the Company's customers in Western Europe and North America.

The Company currently utilizes the light vehicle production forecasting services of J.D. Power and Associates, and its current forecasts for light vehicle production for calendar 2004 are approximately 15.9 million units for North America and 16.3 million for Western Europe. For the fourth quarter of 2004, J.D. Power is forecasting light vehicle production of 4.0 million units in North America and 4.1 million units in Western Europe.

Automotive revenues increased by seven percent to \$114.5 million in the third quarter and by 10 percent to \$362.1 million for the first nine months of 2004 compared with the same periods last year. Fire Protection revenues were up one percent to \$5.9 million for the third quarter of 2004, and increased by two percent to \$17.3 million for the first nine months of 2004 compared with the same prior year period.

Auto-dimming mirror unit shipments to customers in North America declined by one percent in the third quarter and increased by five percent for the first nine months of 2004 compared with the same 2003 periods. North American light vehicle production declined by two percent in the third quarter and was flat for the first nine months of calendar 2004 compared with the same periods last year.

Unit shipments to offshore customers increased by 26 percent in the third



	2004	2003
Net Sales	\$379,430,532	\$345,104,850
Costs and Expenses		
Cost of Goods Sold	222,388,833	201,621,876
Engineering, Research & Development	22,747,948	19,462,760
Selling, General & Administrative	20,175,499	17,310,739
Other Expense (Income)	(9,816,848)	(8,370,527)
Total Costs and Expenses	255,495,432	230,024,848
Income Before Provision for Income Taxes	123,935,100	115,080,002
Provision for Income Taxes	39,910,000	37,400,000
Net Income	\$84,025,100	\$77,680,002
Earnings Per Share		
Basic	\$1.09	\$1.02
Diluted	\$1.07	\$1.01
Weighted Average Shares:		
Basic	77,059,166	76,106,950
Diluted	78,373,511	77,067,148

#### CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	(unaudited) Sept 30, 2004	Dec 31, 2003
ASSETS		
Cash and Short-Term Investments	\$474,884,724	\$393,606,656
Other Current Assets	102,894,904	91,742,675
Total Current Assets	577,779,628	485,349,331
Plant and Equipment - Net	130,634,607	126,806,882
Long-Term Investments and Other Assets	121,061,984	150,373,553
Total Assets	\$829,476,219	\$762,529,766
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' INVESTMENT		
Current Liabilities	\$54,949,632	\$50,480,480
Long-Term Debt	0	0
Deferred Income Taxes	18,136,366	18,405,955
Shareholders' Investment	756,390,221	693,643,331
Total Liabilities & Shareholders' Investment	\$829,476,219	\$762,529,766

#### AUTO-DIMMING MIRROR UNIT SHIPMENTS (Thousands)

	Third Quarter Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2004	2003	% Change	2004	2003	% Change
Domestic Interior	932	913	2%	3,009	2,836	6%
Domestic Exterior	403	434	-7%	1,311	1,293	1%
Total Domestic Units	1,336	1,348	-1%	4,320	4,130	5%
Foreign Interior	1,058	774	37%	3,262	2,378	37%
Foreign Exterior	363	353	3%	1,157	1,036	12%
Total Foreign Units	1,420	1,127	26%	4,419	3,414	29%
Total Interior Mirrors	1,990	1,688	18%	6,271	5,215	20%
Total Exterior Mirrors	766	787	-3%	2,468	2,329	6%
Total Mirror Units	2,756	2,475	11%	8,739	7,544	16%

Note: Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation. Amounts may not total due to rounding.

SOURCE Gentex Corporation

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10/19/2004

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/Web site: <http://www.gentex.com/> /  
(GNTX)

CO: Gentex Corporation

ST: Michigan

IN: AUT

SU: ERN CCA MAV