
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

MANITEX INTERNATIONAL, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Michigan
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

42-1628978
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

9725 Industrial Drive
Bridgeview, Illinois 60455
(708) 430-7500

(Address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of
registrant's principal executive offices)

David J. Langevin
Chief Executive Officer
Manitex International, Inc.
9725 Industrial Drive
Bridgeview, Illinois 60455
708-430-7500

(Address, including zip code and telephone number,
including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:
Donald E. Figliulo, Esq.
Bryan Cave LLP
161 North Clark Street, Suite 4300
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3315
(312) 602-5000
(312) 698-7425 (fax)

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale of the securities to the public: From time to time, after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. _____

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same

offering. _____

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of each class of securities to be registered | Amount registered ⁽¹⁾ | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price ⁽²⁾ | Amount of registration fee |
|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Common Stock, no par value | — | — | — |
| Preferred Stock, no par value | — | — | — |
| Warrants | — | — | — |
| Units | — | — | — |
| Purchase Rights | — | — | — |
| Total | — | \$17,000,000⁽³⁾ | \$1,974 |

- (1) We are registering hereunder such indeterminate number of shares of common stock, preferred stock, warrants, units and purchase rights as shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$17,000,000.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (3) In no event will the aggregate offering price of all securities issued from time to time pursuant to this registration statement exceed \$17,000,000. The securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or with other securities registered hereunder.

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, or until this registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. WE MAY NOT SELL THESE SECURITIES UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IS EFFECTIVE. THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES NOR IS IT AN INVITATION FOR OFFERS TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE OR JURISDICTION WHERE NOT PERMITTED.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED _____, 2011

PROSPECTUS



\$17,000,000

MANITEX INTERNATIONAL, INC.

**Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Warrants
Units
Purchase Rights**

From time to time, we may sell any of the securities listed above. We will provide the specific terms of these securities in one or more supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before making your investment decision. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing on the NASDAQ Capital Market or any securities exchange or market of the securities covered by the prospectus supplement.

This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol "MNTX."

Investing in our securities involves significant risks, which we describe in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 and in other documents that we subsequently file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and which we will describe in supplements to this prospectus. See also "Risk Factors" beginning at page 2 of this prospectus to read about certain factors you should consider before deciding whether to invest our securities.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is August 9, 2011

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) using a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf process, we may, from time to time, sell common stock, preferred stock or warrants in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$17,000,000. The preferred stock, warrants and units may be convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common or preferred stock. In addition, a dividend distribution of one preferred share purchase right attaches to each outstanding share of our common stock. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell any securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of those securities.

This prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For a more complete understanding of our business and the offered securities, you should refer to the registration statement, including its exhibits. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under “Where You Can Find More Information” before buying securities in any offering.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context otherwise requires, all references in this prospectus to “we,” “us,” “Manitex,” “the Company” or similar references mean Manitex International, Inc. and our subsidiaries.

You should rely only on the information contained, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any other offering material that we authorize. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making offers to sell the securities in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of our securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The information contained in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement or amendment or any other offering material that we authorize, or incorporated herein or therein by reference, is accurate only as of the date of such documents, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or prospectus supplement or amendment or any other offering material that we authorize, as applicable, or of any sale of the securities.

ABOUT MANITEX INTERNATIONAL, INC.

We are a leading provider of engineered lifting solutions. We design, manufacture and distribute a diverse group of products that serve different functions and are used in a variety of industries. Through our subsidiary Manitek, Inc. we market a comprehensive line of boom trucks and sign cranes. Manitek's boom trucks and crane products are primarily used for industrial projects, energy exploration and infrastructure development, including, roads, bridges and commercial construction. Our subsidiary Badger Equipment Company, acquired on July 10, 2009, is a manufacturer of specialized rough terrain cranes and material handling products, including a 30-ton model introduced in October 2009, the first in a new line of specialized high quality rough terrain cranes. Badger primarily serves the needs of the construction, municipality, and railroad industries. We acquired Badger primarily to obtain the recently developed 30 ton Rough Terrain crane together with Badger's long standing crane legacy and niche customer relationships. These acquisitions provide significant additional markets for us and are also strategically aligned with our existing Lifting Equipment segment.

Through our Manitek Liftking subsidiary, we also sell a complete line of rough terrain forklifts, a line of stand-up electric forklifts, cushioned tired forklifts with lifting capacities from 18 thousand to 40 thousand pounds, and special mission oriented vehicles, as well as other specialized carriers, heavy material handling transporters and steel mill equipment. Manitek Liftking's rough terrain forklifts are used in both commercial and military applications. Specialty mission oriented vehicles and specialized carriers are designed and built to meet our unique customer needs and requirements. Our specialized lifting equipment has met the particular needs of customers in various industries that include utility, ship building and steel mill industries.

The foregoing operations comprise our Lifting Equipment Segment. On December 31, 2009, our subsidiary Manitek Load King, Inc. acquired the operating assets of Load King Trailers, an Elk Point, South Dakota-based manufacturer of specialized custom trailers and hauling systems typically used for transporting heavy equipment. Load King trailers serve niche markets in the commercial construction, railroad, military, and equipment rental industries through a dealer network.

In October 2008, we began operating a crane dealership located in Bridgeview, Illinois that distributes Terex rough terrain and truck cranes, Fuchs material handlers, Manitek boom trucks and sky cranes. We treat these operations as a separate reporting segment entitled "Equipment Distribution." Our Equipment Distribution segment also supplies repair parts for a wide variety of medium to heavy duty construction equipment sold both domestically and internationally. In addition, our Equipment Distribution segment (doing business as North American Equipment Exchange) markets previously owned construction and heavy equipment, domestically and internationally. Our crane products are used primarily for infrastructure development and commercial construction, applications include road and bridge construction, general contracting, roofing, scrap handling and sign construction and maintenance.

In July 2010, our Italian subsidiary, CVS Ferrari, srl, entered into an agreement to operate on an exclusive rental basis the business of CVS SpA during its Italian bankruptcy process (concordato preventivo). CVS SpA, located near Milan, Italy, designs and manufactures a range of reach stackers and associated lifting equipment for the global container handling market sold through a broad dealer network. During the third quarter 2010, CVS Ferrari, srl commenced operations. In June 2011, CVS Ferrari, srl, entered into a purchase agreement with CVS SpA to acquire all rights, designs and drawings for all products previously manufactured by CVS SpA, including reach stackers, straight mast container handlers, straddle carrier and tractors, as well as certain machinery and equipment used to manufacture the aforementioned items.

Our principal executive officers are David J. Langevin, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Andrew M. Rooke, President and Chief Operating Officer, and David H. Gransee, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with them. This means that we can disclose important information to you in this prospectus by referring you to those documents. These incorporated documents contain important business and financial information about us that is not included in or delivered with this prospectus. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information filed with the SEC will update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference the following documents, which we have previously filed with the SEC:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010;

- our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2011;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on March 2, May 27, July 1, July 6 (as amended on Form 8-K/A filed August 8, 2011);
- our Definitive Proxy Materials dated April 29, 2011 for an annual meeting of stockholders held on May 26, 2011;
- the description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on September 3, 2004 under the caption “Description of Capital Stock” and any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description; and
- any future filings made by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, until we sell all of the shares except for the filings, or portions thereof, that are “furnished” rather than filed with the SEC.

All filings filed by us pursuant to the Exchange Act after the date hereof and prior to effectiveness of this registration statement shall be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, on written or oral request of that person, a copy of any or all of the documents we are incorporating by reference into this prospectus, other than exhibits to those documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. Such written requests should be addressed to:

Manitex International, Inc.
 9725 Industrial Drive
 Bridgeview, Illinois 60455
 Attention: Chief Financial Officer

You may direct telephone requests to David H. Gransee, our Chief Financial Officer, at (708) 430-7500.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly, and special reports and proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document that we file at the SEC’s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available on the SEC’s web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of certain information filed by us with the SEC are also available on our web site at <http://www.manitexinternational.com>. We have not incorporated by reference into this prospectus the information on our website, and you should not consider it to be a part of this document.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risk. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks described under “Risk Factors” in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed for the period ending December 31, 2010 and any updates in our subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, together with all other information appearing in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, in light of your particular investment objectives and financial circumstances. These risks could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement include and incorporate by reference “forward-looking statements.” We intend these forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements relate to, among other things:

- our business strategy;
- the market opportunity for our products, including expected demand for our products;

- our estimates regarding our capital requirements;
- our estimates regarding capabilities and capacities of our business operations;
- our projections of revenue, earnings, capital structure, and other financial items; and
- any of our other plans, objectives, expectations and intentions contained in this prospectus that are not historical facts.

These statements relate to future events or future financial performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievement to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “should,” “could,” “expects,” “plans,” “intends,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential” or “continue” or the negative of such terms or other comparable terminology. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. These statements are only predictions.

Forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results or performance to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- substantial deterioration in economic conditions, especially in the United States, Canada and Europe;
- our customers’ diminished liquidity and credit availability;
- our ability to negotiate extensions of our credit agreements and to obtain additional debt or equity financing when needed;
- difficulties in implementing new systems, integrating acquired businesses, managing anticipated growth, and responding to technological change;
- ability to finance the capital requirements of our business;
- impairment of ability to meet our obligations and restrictions on future operations due to our substantial debt;
- our level of indebtedness and our ability to meet financial covenants required by our debt agreements;
- the cyclical nature of the markets we operate in;
- increases in interest rates;
- government spending, fluctuations in the construction industry, and capital expenditures in the oil and gas industry;
- shortages in supplies and raw materials or the increase in costs of materials;
- natural disaster or other disruption to our operations;
- competition in our industry;
- the performance of our competitors;
- product liability claims, intellectual property claims, and other liabilities;
- the volatility of our stock price;
- future sales of our common stock and other securities;
- the willingness of our stockholders and directors to approve mergers, acquisitions, and other business transactions;
- currency transactions (foreign exchange) risks and the risks related to forward currency contracts;
- failure to maintain an effective system of internal controls necessary to accurately report our financial results and prevent fraud;
- cost to comply with government regulations;
- a substantial portion of our revenues are attributed to a limited number of customers, which may decrease or cease purchasing at any time;
- adverse developments in our relationships with key customers;
- certain provisions of the Michigan Business Corporation Act and the Company’s Articles of Incorporation, as amended, Amended and Restated Bylaws, and the Company’s Preferred Stock Purchase Rights may discourage or prevent a change in control of the Company; and
- NASDAQ may cease to list our Common Stock.

Other factors include those discussed under the caption “Risk Factors” from time to time in our filings with the SEC. We undertake no duty to update these forward-looking statements after the date of this prospectus, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless indicated otherwise in any applicable prospectus supplement, we expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for our operations and for other general corporate purposes, including acquisitions, repayment or refinancing of borrowings, working capital, capital expenditures and investments. Additional information on the use of net proceeds from the sale of securities that we may offer from time to time by this prospectus may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a particular offering.

Pending any specific application, we may initially invest funds in short-term marketable securities.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following information describes our capital stock and provisions of our Articles of Incorporation, as amended, and our Amended and Restated Bylaws, as amended. This description is only a summary and does not purport to be complete. For information on how you can obtain those documents, see “Where You Can Find More Information.”

General

As of the date of this prospectus, our authorized capital stock consists of 20,000,000 shares of common stock, no par value per share and 150,000 shares of preferred stock, no par value per share. As of the date of this prospectus, there were 11,409,533 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding and no shares of our preferred stock issued and outstanding. Our common stock currently trades on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “MNTX.”

Common Stock

Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by shareholders. In accordance with Michigan law, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares represented and voting at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present (which shares voting affirmatively also constitute at least a majority of the required quorum) shall be the act of the shareholders.

Shares of our common stock have no preemptive rights, no redemption or sinking fund provisions, and are not liable for further call or assessment. The holders of such common stock are entitled to receive dividends when and as declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available for dividends, subject to the prior rights or preferences applicable to any preferred stock then outstanding and subject to covenants of the Company’s credit agreements. The Company has not declared or paid any cash dividends on its common stock and the Company does not intend to pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, the terms of our credit facility do not allow us to declare or pay dividends without the prior written consent of our lender.

If we are liquidated, our creditors and any holders of our preferred stock with preferential liquidation rights will be paid before any distribution to holders of common stock. The holders of common stock would be entitled to receive a pro rata distribution per share of any excess amount. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any series of preferred stock which we may designate and issue in the future.

Preferred Stock

Our Articles of Incorporation empower our board of directors to issue up to 150,000 shares of preferred stock from time to time in one or more series. As of the date of this prospectus, there were no shares of preferred stock issued and outstanding.

We may issue one or more series of preferred stock, with designations, powers, preferences and other rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions as may be approved by our board of directors, including:

- the distinctive designation of each series and the number of shares that will constitute the series;
- the voting rights, if any, of shares of the series and the terms and conditions of the voting rights;
- the dividend rate on the shares of the series, the dates on which dividends are payable, any restriction, limitation or condition upon the payment of dividends, whether dividends will be cumulative, and the dates from and after which dividends shall accumulate;
- the prices at which, and the terms and conditions on which, the shares of the series may be redeemed, if the shares are redeemable;
- the terms and conditions of a sinking or purchase fund for the purchase or redemption of shares of the series, if such a fund is provided;
- any preferential amount payable upon the shares of the series in the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of, or upon the distribution of any of our assets; and

- the prices or rates of conversion or exchange at which, and the terms and conditions on which, the shares of the series may be converted or exchanged into other securities, if the shares are convertible or exchangeable.

The particular terms of any series of preferred stock, and the transfer agent and registrar for that series, will be described in a prospectus supplement. All preferred stock offered, when issued, will be fully paid and nonassessable. Any material United States federal income tax consequences and other special considerations with respect to any preferred stock offered under this prospectus will also be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Preferred Share Purchase Rights

For each share of our common stock, there is one preferred share purchase right (a “Right”). Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from us one one-hundredth of a share of our Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, no par value (“Preferred Shares”), at a price of \$35.00 per one one-hundredth of a Preferred Share, subject to adjustment (the “Purchase Price”). As long as the Rights are attached to the common stock, we will issue one Right for each share of common stock, so that all such shares will have attached Rights. We initially reserved 125,000 Preferred Shares for issuance upon exercise of the Rights. The description below is only a summary of the Rights Agreement, dated October 17, 2008 (the “Rights Agreement”) with and the Rights Agent, which is currently Broadridge Corporate Issuer Solutions, Inc., and does not purport to be complete. For information on how you can obtain a complete copy of the Rights Agreement, see “Where You Can Find More Information.”

Until the earlier to occur of (i) 10 days following a public announcement that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons (other than us, any of our subsidiaries or any of our employee benefit plans or certain holders of our common stock as of the date of the Rights Agreement) (an “Acquiring Person”) has acquired beneficial ownership of 15% (or, in the case of certain holders, 30%) or more of outstanding common stock (the “Shares Acquisition Date”), or (ii) 10 business days (or such later date as may be determined by action of our board of directors prior to such time as any person becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement of, or announcement of an intention to make, a tender offer or exchange offer the consummation of which would result in the beneficial ownership by a person or group (other than us, any of our subsidiaries or any of our employee benefit plans) of 15% (or, in the case of certain holders, 30%) or more of such outstanding shares of common stock (the earlier of such dates being called the “Distribution Date”), the Rights will be evidenced by the certificates for such shares of common stock.

The Rights Agreement provides that, until the Distribution Date, the Rights will be transferred with and only with the shares of common stock. Until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), new common stock certificates, upon transfer or new issuance of shares of common stock, will contain a notation incorporating the Rights Agreement by reference. Until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), the surrender for transfer of any certificates for common stock, even without such notation, will also constitute the transfer of the Rights associated with the shares of common stock represented by such certificate. As soon as practicable following the Distribution Date, separate certificates evidencing the Rights (“Right Certificates”) will be mailed to holders of record of the shares of common stock as of the close of business on the Distribution Date and such separate Right Certificates alone will evidence the Rights.

The Rights are not exercisable until the Distribution Date. The Rights will expire on October 17, 2018 (the “Final Expiration Date”), unless we redeem or exchange the Rights earlier, in each case as described below.

The Purchase Price payable, and the number of Preferred Shares or other securities or property issuable, upon exercise of the Rights are subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution (i) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination or reclassification of, the Preferred Shares, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Preferred Shares of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for or purchase Preferred Shares at a price, or securities convertible into Preferred Shares with a conversion price, less than the then current market price of the Preferred Shares or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Preferred Shares of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding regular annual cash dividends or dividends payable in Preferred Shares) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above).

The number of outstanding Rights and the number of one one-hundredths of a Preferred Share issuable upon exercise of each Right are also subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split of the common stock or a stock dividend on the common stock payable in common stock or subdivisions, consolidations or combinations of the common stock occurring, in any such case, prior to the Distribution Date.

Preferred Shares purchasable upon the exercise of Rights will not be redeemable. Each Preferred Share will be entitled to a minimum preferential quarterly dividend payment of \$1.00 per share but will be entitled to an aggregate dividend of 100 times the dividend declared per share of common stock. In the event of liquidation, the holders of the Preferred Shares will be entitled to a minimum preferential liquidation payment of \$100 per share but will be entitled to an aggregate payment of 100 times the payment made per share of common stock. Each Preferred Share will have one vote per share, voting as a separate class on all matters submitted to holders of common stock. Finally, in the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which common stock are exchanged, each Preferred Share will be entitled to receive 100 times the amount received per share of common stock. These Rights are protected by customary antidilution provisions.

In the event that any person becomes an Acquiring Person (a "Flip In Event"), each holder of a Right (except as otherwise provided in the Rights Agreement) will thereafter have the right to receive upon exercise that number of common stock (or, in certain circumstances, cash, property or other securities of the Company or a reduction in the Purchase Price) having a market value of two times the then current Purchase Price. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, following the occurrence of a Flip In Event all Rights that are, or (under certain circumstances specified in the Rights Agreement) were, or subsequently become beneficially owned by an Acquiring Person, related persons and transferees will be null and void.

In the event that, at any time following the Shares Acquisition Date, (i) we are acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction or (ii) 50% or more of our consolidated assets or earning power are sold (the events described in clauses (i) and (ii) are herein referred to as "Flip-Over Events"), proper provision will be made so that each holder of a Right (except as otherwise provided in the Rights Agreement) will thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise thereof at the then current Purchase Price, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company which at the time of such transaction will have a market value of two times the then current Purchase Price.

With certain exceptions, no adjustment in the Purchase Price will be required until cumulative adjustments require an adjustment of at least 1% in such Purchase Price.

At any time after a person becomes an Acquiring Person and prior to the acquisition by such Acquiring Person of 50% or more of the outstanding common stock, our board of directors may exchange the Rights (other than Rights owned by any Acquiring Person which have become void), in whole or in part, at an exchange ratio of one share of common stock, or one one-hundredth of a Preferred Share (or of a share of a class or series of our preferred stock having equivalent rights, preferences and privileges), per Right (subject to adjustment).

At any time prior to a person becoming an Acquiring Person, our board of directors may redeem the Rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$.001 per Right (the "Redemption Price"). The redemption of the Rights may be made effective at such time, on such basis and with such conditions as our board of directors in its sole discretion may establish. Immediately upon any redemption of the Rights, the right to exercise the Rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of Rights will be to receive the Redemption Price.

Other than amendments that would change the Redemption Price, the Purchase Price or the Final Expiration Date of the Rights, the terms of the Rights may be amended by our board of directors without the consent of the holders of the Rights, including an amendment to lower the threshold for exercisability of the Rights from 15% to not less than 10%, with appropriate exceptions for any person then beneficially owning a percentage of the number of common stock then outstanding equal to or in excess of the new threshold, except that from and after such time as any person becomes an Acquiring Person no such amendment may adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Rights.

Until a Right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a shareholder of the Company, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends.

The Rights have certain anti-takeover effects. The Rights will cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire us without conditioning the offer on redemption of the Rights or on a substantial number of Rights being acquired. The Rights should not interfere with any merger or other business combination approved by our board of directors since the board of directors may, at its option, at any time until a person becomes an Acquiring Person redeem all but not less than all of the then-outstanding Rights at \$.001 per Right.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

Provisions of our Articles of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws, Michigan law, and the Rights Agreement could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire the Company, even if doing so would be perceived to be beneficial to you. These provisions could discourage potential takeover attempts and could adversely affect the market price of our shares. Because of these provisions, you might not be able to receive a premium on your investment. These provisions:

- authorize our board of directors, without requiring shareholder consent, to issue shares of “blank check” preferred stock that could be issued by our board of directors to increase the number of outstanding shares and prevent a takeover attempt;
- limit our shareholders’ ability to call a special meeting of our shareholders;
- limit our shareholders’ ability to amend, alter or repeal our bylaws;
- may result in the issuance of preferred stock, which would significantly dilute the stock ownership percentage of certain shareholders and make it more difficult for a third party to acquire a majority of our outstanding voting stock; and
- restrict business combinations with certain shareholders.

The provisions described above could prevent, delay or defer a change in control of the Company or its management. See also “Preferred Share Purchase Rights” and “Description of Purchase Rights” for details regarding the purchase rights that attach to each share of our common stock and other purchase rights that may attach to our securities in the future.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants for the purchase of common stock, preferred stock or a combination thereof. We may issue warrants independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from the other offered securities. We will describe the particular terms of any warrants that we may offer under this prospectus in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement.

General

The applicable prospectus supplement relating to any particular issue of warrants will describe the terms of the warrants, including, as applicable, the following:

- the title of the warrants;
- the aggregate number of the warrants;
- the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;
- the designation, terms and number of shares of preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;
- the designation and terms of the offered securities, if any, with which the warrants are issued and the number of the warrants issued with each offered security;
- the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the related common stock or preferred stock will be separately transferable;
- the price at which each share of preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants shall commence and the date on which that right shall expire;
- the provisions for changes to or adjustments in the exercise price, if any;
- the terms of any rights to redeem or call, or accelerate the expiration of, the warrants;
- the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants which may be exercised at any one time;

- a discussion of certain federal income tax considerations; and
- any other terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

Until any warrants are exercised, holders of the warrants will not have any rights of holders of the underlying common stock or preferred stock, including any rights to receive dividends or to exercise any voting rights.

We may amend or supplement the warrant agreement for a series of warrants without the consent of the holders of the warrants issued thereunder to cure ambiguities in the warrant agreement or to effect changes that we deem necessary or desirable and which do not materially and adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

As specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue units comprised of one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The prospectus supplement will describe:

- the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be held or transferred separately;
- a description of the terms of any unit agreement governing the units;
- a description of the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units;
- a discussion of material federal income tax considerations, if applicable; and
- whether the units will be issued in fully registered or global form.

The descriptions of the units and any applicable underlying security or pledge or depository arrangements in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement are summaries of the material provisions of the applicable agreements. These descriptions do not restate those agreements in their entirety and may not contain all the information that you may find useful. We urge you to read the applicable agreements because they, and not the summaries, define many of your rights as holders of the units. For more information, please review the form of the relevant agreements, which will be filed with the SEC promptly after the offering of units and will be available as described under “Where You Can Find More Information.”

DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE RIGHTS

We may issue rights to purchase common stock, preferred stock, warrants or units. These rights may be issued independently or together with any other security and may or may not be transferable by the person receiving the rights in such offering. In connection with any offering of such rights, we may enter into a standby arrangement with one or more underwriters or other purchasers pursuant to which the underwriters or other purchasers may be required to purchase any securities remaining unsubscribed for after such offering.

Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agreement which we will enter into with a bank or trust company, as rights agent, all as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The rights agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the certificates relating to the rights and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holders of rights certificates or beneficial owners of rights.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any offering of rights for which this prospectus is being delivered, including the following:

- the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be held or transferred separately;
- the date of determining the shareholders entitled to the rights distribution;

- the number of rights issued or to be issued to each shareholder;
- the exercise price payable for each share of common stock, preferred stock, warrant or unit upon the exercise of the rights;
- the number and terms of the shares of common stock, preferred stock, warrants or units which may be purchased per each right;
- the extent to which the rights are transferable;
- the date on which the holder's ability to exercise the rights shall commence, and the date on which the rights shall expire;
- the extent to which the rights may include an over-subscription privilege with respect to unsubscribed securities;
- if applicable, the material terms of any standby underwriting or purchase arrangement entered into by us in connection with the offering of such rights; and
- any other terms of the rights, including the terms, procedures, conditions, and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the rights.

The descriptions of the rights and any applicable underlying security in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement are summaries of the material provisions of the applicable agreements. These descriptions do not restate those agreements in their entirety and may not contain all the information that you may find useful. We urge you to read the applicable agreements because they, and not the summaries, define many of your rights as holders of the securities. For more information, please review the form of the relevant agreements, which will be filed with the SEC promptly after the offering of purchase rights and will be available as described under "Where You Can Find More Information."

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell securities covered by this prospectus in and outside the United States (a) through underwriters or dealers, (b) directly to purchasers, including our affiliates, (c) through agents or (d) through a combination of any of these methods. The accompanying prospectus supplement will set forth the terms of the offering and the method of distribution and will identify any firms acting as underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering, including:

- the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;
- the respective amounts underwritten;
- the name or names of any managing underwriter or underwriters;
- the terms of the offering;
- the purchase price of the securities and the net proceeds to us from the sale;
- any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting compensation to underwriters, dealers or agents;
- any public offering price;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers; and
- any commissions paid to agents.

Only those underwriters identified in such prospectus supplement are deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities offered in the prospectus supplement.

Sale Through Underwriters Or Dealers

If underwriters are used in an offering, the underwriters will acquire securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Underwriters may offer the securities to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase securities will be subject to certain conditions, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if they purchase any of them. The underwriters may change from time to time any offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers.

During and after an offering through underwriters, the underwriters may purchase and sell the securities in the open market. These transactions may include overallotment and stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover syndicate short positions created in connection with the offering.

If dealers are used in the sale of the securities covered by this prospectus, we will sell the securities to them as principals. They may then resell those securities to the public at varying prices determined by the dealers at the time of resale. We will include in the prospectus supplement the names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction.

At-the-Market Offerings

We may engage in at-the-market offerings of our common stock. An at-the-market offering is an offering of our common stock at other than a fixed price to or through a market maker.

Direct Sales and Sales Through Agents

We may sell the securities covered by this prospectus directly. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We may also sell the securities through agents designated from time to time. In the prospectus supplement, we will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the shares, and we will describe any commissions payable to the agent. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, any agent will agree to use its reasonable best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of its appointment.

We may sell the securities covered by this prospectus directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), with respect to any sale of those securities. We will describe the terms of any such sales in the prospectus supplement.

Delayed Delivery Contracts

If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price under delayed delivery contracts. These contracts would provide for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts would be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

General Information

We may have agreements with the agents, dealers and underwriters to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments that the agents, dealers or underwriters may be required to make. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

LEGAL MATTERS

Bowen, Radabaugh & Milton, P.C., Troy, Michigan, has passed upon the validity of the securities to be offered pursuant to this prospectus.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 have been audited by UHY LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

DISCLOSURE OF COMMISSION POSITION ON INDEMNIFICATION FOR SECURITIES ACT LIABILITIES

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the registrant has been informed that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is therefore unenforceable.

PART II
INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses Of Issuance And Distribution

The estimated expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered, other than underwriting compensation, are:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| SEC Registration Fee | \$1,974.00 (1) |
| Legal Fees and Expenses | \$ (2) |
| Accounting Fees and Expenses | \$ (2) |
| Transfer Agent and Registrar Fees and Expenses | \$ (2) |
| Trustee Fees and Expenses | \$ (2) |
| Printing and Engraving Fees | \$ (2) |
| Rating Agency Fees and Expenses | \$ (2) |
| Stock Exchange Fees | \$ (2) |
| Miscellaneous | \$ (2) |
| Total | \$ (2) |

- (1) Paid upon the initial filing of this Registration Statement with the SEC on August 9, 2011.
- (2) Because an indeterminate amount of securities are covered by this registration statement, the expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of securities are not currently determinable.

Item 15. Indemnification Of Directors And Officers

We are organized under the Michigan Business Corporation Act, which generally empowers Michigan corporations to indemnify a person that is a party, or threatened to be made a party, to any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding, whether formal or informal (other than actions by or in the right of the corporation), by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or of another enterprise serving at such corporation's request, against expenses, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection therewith if such person acted in good faith and in a manner in which he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation or its shareholders, and, with respect to a criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

In a derivative action (an action brought by or in the right of the corporation), the Michigan Business Corporation Act provides that indemnification may be made for expenses, including attorneys' fees and amounts paid in settlement, actually and reasonably incurred by the director, officer, employee or agent in connection with the action or suit only if such director or officer acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation or its shareholders; except that no indemnification is available if such person has been found liable to the corporation unless, and only to the extent that, the court in which the action or suit was brought determines upon application that the defendant director or officer is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity. If a director or officer is successful in defending a derivative action, the Michigan Business Corporation Act requires that a Michigan corporation indemnify such director or officer against any expenses actually and reasonably incurred in the action.

The Michigan Business Corporation Act permits Michigan corporations to eliminate or limit the personal liability of directors, except liability for (i) the amount of a financial benefit received by a director to which he or she is not entitled; (ii) intentional infliction of harm on the corporation or its shareholders; (iii) a violation of Section 551 of the Michigan Business Corporation Act, which pertains to unlawful payments of dividends, stock purchases or redemptions; and (iv) an intentional criminal act.

We have adopted provisions in our Amended and Restated Bylaws that provide for indemnification to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

We will maintain directors and officers liability insurance coverage for our directors and officers that will provide for damages, judgments, settlements, defense costs, charges and expenses incurred by reason of any actual

or alleged breach of duty, error, misstatement, misleading statement or omission done or made in their capacities as directors and/or officers of the Company.

Item 16. Exhibits

See the Exhibit Index which is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 17. Undertakings

The Registrant hereby undertakes the following:

(a)(1) To file, during any period in which it offers or sells securities, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement to:

(i) include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) (§230.424(b) of this chapter) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement.

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii) and (a)(1)(iii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any

statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities: The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(b) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions described in Item 15 above, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on a Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Bridgeview, State of Illinois, on August 9, 2011.

MANITEX INTERNATIONAL, INC.

By: /s/ David J. Langevin
David J. Langevin
Chief Executive Officer

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints David J. Langevin and David H. Gransee, and each of them, as true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents with full power of substitution and re-substitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign the Registration Statement filed herewith and any or all amendments and supplements to said Registration Statement (including post-effective amendments and registration statements filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) or otherwise), and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, the Securities and Exchange Commission granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agents the full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the foregoing, as to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agents or any of them, or his substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on August 9, 2011.

| <u>SIGNATURE</u> | <u>CAPACITY</u> |
|---|--|
| <u>/s/ David J. Langevin</u> David J. Langevin | Chairman of the Board |
| <u>/s/ David J. Langevin</u> David J. Langevin | Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) |
| <u>/s/ Ronald M. Clark</u> Ronald M. Clark | Director |
| <u>/s/ Robert S. Gigliotti</u> Robert S. Gigliotti | Director |
| <u>/s/ Marvin B. Rosenberg</u> Marvin B. Rosenberg | Director |
| <u>/s/ Stephen J. Tober</u> Stephen J. Tober | Director |
| <u>/s/ David H. Gransee</u> David H. Gransee | Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer) |

EXHIBIT INDEX

| <u>Exhibit Number</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------------------|--|
| 5.1 | Opinion of Bowen, Radabaugh & Milton, P.C. regarding the legality of the securities offered by this Registration Statement.* |
| 23.1 | Consent of UHY LLP.* |
| 23.2 | Consent of Bowen, Radabaugh & Milton, P.C. (included in Exhibit 5.1).* |
| 24 | Powers of Attorney of directors and certain officers of the Registrant (included on signature page).* |

* Filed herewith.

**BOWEN, RADABAUGH
& MILTON, P.C.**

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August 9, 2011

Manitex International, Inc.
9725 Industrial Drive
Bridgeview, Illinois 60455

**Re: Manitex International, Inc.
S-3 Registration Statement
Michigan Opinion**

Gentlemen and Ladies,

We have acted as special counsel to Manitex International, Inc., a Michigan corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the Company's filing of a Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement"), including the prospectus constituting a part thereof (the "Prospectus"), under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"), relating to an aggregate of up to \$17,000,000.00 of (i) shares of common stock of the Company, no par value per share (the "Common Stock"); (ii) shares of preferred stock of the Company (the "Preferred Stock"); (iii) warrants to purchase Common Stock, Preferred Stock, or other securities (the "Warrants"); (iv) units of the Company (the "Units"), consisting of one or more of Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares, and Warrants; and (v) rights to purchase Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Warrants and/or Units ("Purchase Rights"). All capitalized terms which are defined in the Registration Statement shall have the same meanings when used herein, unless otherwise specified.

The Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Warrants, Units and the Purchase Rights are hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Securities." The Securities may be issued and sold or delivered from time to time by the Company as set forth in the Registration Statement, any amendment thereto, the Prospectus, and supplements to the Prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 415 under the Act.

The Warrants would be issued under a warrant agreement (the "Warrant Agreement") between the Company and a warrant agent to be specified therein. Each party to a Warrant Agreement other than the Company is referred to hereinafter as a "Counterparty."

The Units would be issued under a unit agreement (the "Unit Agreement") between the Company and a unit agent to be specified therein (the "Unit Agent").

The Purchase Rights would be issued under a purchase rights agreement (the “Purchase Rights Agreement”) between the Company and a purchase rights agent to be specified therein (the “Purchase Rights Agent”).

In rendering this opinion, we have examined originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the:

- (i) Registration Statement, including the Prospectus;
- (ii) Certificate of Incorporation of the Company filed October 17, 2003;
- (iii) Certificate of Assumed Name for the Company filed November 17, 2003;
- (iv) Certificate of Termination of Assumed Name for the Company filed December 4, 2003;
- (v) Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Company filed December 17, 2003;
- (vi) Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Company filed July 16, 2004;
- (vii) Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Company filed May 27, 2008;
- (viii) Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Company filed October 20, 2008; and
- (ix) Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, as amended, as in effect on the date hereof.
- (x) Resolutions of the Company’s Board of Directors

We have also examined originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of other corporate records, agreements and instruments of the Company, certificates of public officials and officers of the Company, and such other documents, records and instruments, and we have made such legal and factual inquiries, as we have deemed necessary or appropriate as a basis for us to render the opinions hereinafter expressed. In our examination of the foregoing, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the legal competence and capacity of natural persons, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals and the conformity with authentic original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies. When relevant facts were not independently established, with your permission, we have relied without independent investigation as to matters of fact upon statements of governmental officials and upon representations made in or pursuant to the certificates and statements of appropriate representatives of the Company, whether contained in the documents referenced above or otherwise, including all representations and warranties, as being true and correct.

We also have assumed that: (1) at the time of the execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of any Warrants, the related Warrant Agreement will be the valid and legally binding obligation of each Counterparty thereto, enforceable against such party in accordance with its terms; and (2) at the time of the execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of the

Units, the related Unit Agreement will be the valid and legally binding obligation of the Unit Agent, enforceable against such party in accordance with its terms; and (3) at the time of the execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of the Purchase Rights, the related Purchase Rights Agreement will be the valid and legally binding obligation of the Purchase Rights Agent, enforceable against such party in accordance with its terms.

We have assumed further that: (1) at the time of execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of any Warrants, the related Warrant Agreement will have been duly authorized, executed, and delivered by the Company and the Counterparty and will be in full force and effect and will not have been terminated or rescinded by the Company or the Counterparty; (2) at the time of execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of the Units, the Unit Agreement will have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and the Unit Agent and will be in full force and effect and will not have been terminated or rescinded by the Company or the Unit Agent; (3) at the time of the execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of the Purchase Rights, the Purchase Rights Agreement will have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and the Purchase Rights Agent and will be in full force and effect and will not have been terminated or rescinded by the Company or the Purchase Rights Agent; and (4) at the time of execution, countersignature, issuance and sale of any of the Securities, the terms of the Securities, and their issuance and sale, will have been established so as not to violate any applicable law or result in a default under or breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company, and so as to comply with any requirement or restriction imposed by any court or governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company.

Based upon the foregoing and in reliance thereon, and subject to the assumptions, comments, qualifications, limitations and exceptions set forth herein and the effectiveness of the Registration Statement, we are the opinion that:

1. With respect to the Common Stock, assuming the (a) taking of all necessary corporate action to authorize and approve the issuance of the Common Stock, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters and (b) due issuance and delivery of the Common Stock, upon payment therefor in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board of Directors of the Company, a duly constituted and acting committee of such board or duly authorized officers of the Company (such Board of Directors, committee or authorized officers being referred to herein as the “Board”), the Common Stock will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

2. With respect to the Preferred Stock, assuming the (a) taking of all necessary corporate action to authorize and approve the issuance of the Preferred Stock, the terms of the offering thereof and related, (b) due filing of the Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation of the Company authorizing and establishing the terms of the Preferred Stock, and (c) due issuance and delivery of the Preferred Stock, upon payment therefor in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, the Preferred Stock will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

3. With respect to the Warrants, assuming the (a) taking of all necessary corporate action to authorize and approve the issuance and terms of the Warrants, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters and (b) due execution, countersignature, issuance and delivery of such Warrants upon payment of the consideration for such Warrants provided for in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board and otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the applicable Warrant Agreement, such Warrants will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

4. With respect to the Units, assuming the (a) taking of all necessary corporate action to authorize and approve the issuance, execution and terms of any Units, the related Unit Agreements and any Securities which are components of the Units, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, and (b) due execution, countersignature (where applicable), authentication, issuance and delivery of the Units, the Unit Agreements, and the Securities that are components of such Units, in each case upon the payment of the consideration therefor provided for in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, and otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the applicable Warrant Agreement, in the case of Warrants, such Units will be validly issued and will entitle the holders thereof to the rights specified in the Unit Agreements.

5. With respect to the Purchase Rights, assuming the (a) taking of all necessary corporate action to authorize and approve the issuance, execution and terms of any Purchase Rights, the related Purchase Rights Agreements and any Securities which are components of the Purchase Rights, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, and (b) due execution, countersignature (where applicable), authentication, issuance and delivery of the Purchase Rights, the Purchase Rights Agreements, and the Securities that are components of such Purchase Rights, in each case upon the payment of the consideration therefore provided in the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, and otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the applicable Warrant Agreement, in the case of Warrants, such Purchase Rights will be validly issued and will entitle the holders thereof to the rights specified in the Purchase Rights Agreements.

In addition to the assumptions, comments, qualifications, limitations and exceptions set forth above, the opinions set forth herein are further limited by, subject to and based upon the following:

(a) The opinions herein reflect only the application of applicable laws of the State of Michigan (excluding the securities and blue sky laws of such State, as to which we express no opinion). The opinions set forth herein are made as of the date hereof and are subject to, and may be limited by, future changes in the factual matters set forth herein, and we undertake no duty to advise you of the same. The opinions expressed herein are based upon the law in effect (and published or otherwise generally available) on the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement these opinions should such law be changed by legislative action, judicial decision or otherwise. In rendering our opinions, we have not considered, and hereby disclaim

any opinion as to, the application or impact of any laws, cases, decisions, rules or regulations of any other jurisdiction, court or administrative agency.

(b) The opinions set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4 above are subject to and may be limited by (i) applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, receivership, moratorium and other similar laws affecting or relating to the rights and remedies of creditors generally, including, without limitation, laws relating to fraudulent conveyances, preferences and equitable subordination, (ii) general principles of equity (regardless of whether considered in a proceeding in equity or at law), and (iii) an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

(c) Our opinions are further subject to the effect of generally applicable rules of law arising from statutes, judicial and administrative decisions, and the rules and regulations of governmental authorities that: (i) limit or affect the enforcement of provisions of a contract that purport to require waiver of the obligations of good faith, fair dealing, diligence and reasonableness; (ii) limit the availability of a remedy under certain circumstances where another remedy has been elected; (iii) limit the enforceability of provisions releasing, exculpating or exempting a party from, or requiring indemnification of a party for, liability for its own action or inaction, to the extent the action or inaction involves negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct or unlawful conduct; (iv) may, where less than all of the contract may be unenforceable, limit the enforceability of the balance of the contract to circumstances in which the unenforceable portion is not an essential part of the agreed exchange and (v) govern and afford judicial discretion regarding the determination of damages and entitlement to attorneys' fees.

(d) We express no opinion as to the enforceability of any rights to indemnification or contribution provided for in any agreement, including but not limited to any Warrant Agreements, Unit Agreements, Purchase Rights Agreements, or other agreements which are violative of public policy underlying any law, rule or regulation (including any federal or state securities law, rule or regulation) or the legality of such rights.

(e) We express no opinion as to the enforceability of any provision in any agreement, including but not limited to any Warrant Agreements, Unit Agreements, Purchase Rights Agreements, or other agreements purporting or attempting to (i) confer exclusive jurisdiction and/or venue upon certain courts or otherwise waive the defenses of *forum non conveniens* or improper venue, (ii) confer subject matter jurisdiction on a court not having independent grounds therefor, (iii) modify or waive the requirements for effective service of process for any action that may be brought, (iv) waive the right of the Company or any other person to a trial by jury, (v) provide that remedies are cumulative or that decisions by a party are conclusive, (vi) modify or waive the rights to notice, legal defenses, statutes of limitations or other benefits that cannot be waived under applicable law, or (vii) govern choice of applicable law or conflict of laws.

(f) You have informed us that you intend to issue the Securities from time to time on a delayed or continuous basis, and this opinion is limited to the laws, including the rules and regulations, as in effect on the date hereof. We understand that prior to issuing any Securities you

will afford us an opportunity to review the operative documents pursuant to which such Securities are to be issued (including the applicable prospectus supplement) and will file such supplement or amendment to this opinion (if any) as we may reasonably consider necessary or appropriate by reason of the terms of such Securities.

(g) No opinion is being offered or provided with respect to the registration or exemption from registration of any securities, under either Michigan or federal law.

The opinions expressed herein represent our professional judgment as to the matters stated, but are not and shall not be construed or deemed to be a guaranty or warranty as to the validity of such matters.

We do not render any opinions except as set forth above. This opinion letter is being delivered by us solely for purposes of the filing of the Registration Statement with the Commission. We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion letter as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement and to the use of our name under the caption “Legal Matters” in the Prospectus. We also consent to your filing copies of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement with agencies of such states as you deem necessary in the course of complying with the laws of such states regarding the offering and sale of the Securities. In giving such consent, we do not thereby concede that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the Rules and Regulations of the Commission thereunder.

Yours truly,

Bowen, Radabaugh & Milton, P.C.

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-3 of our report dated March 30, 2011, relating to the consolidated financial statements and schedules of Manitex International, Inc. as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 and for the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Manitex International, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2010.

We also consent to the reference to us under the heading "Experts" in such Registration Statement.

UHY LLP
Sterling Heights, Michigan
August 9, 2011