

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
Under
The Securities Act of 1933

Techne Corporation
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Minnesota 41-1427402
(State or Other Juris- (I.R.S. Employer
diction of Incorporation Identification Number)
or Organization)

614 McKinley Place N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413
(Address of Principal Executive Office and Zip Code)

Techne Corporation 1998 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan
(Full Title of the Plan)

Thomas E. Oland, President
Techne Corporation
614 McKinley Place N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413
(612) 379-2956
(Name, Address and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Copies to:
Melodie R. Rose
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
1100 International Centre
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Securities to be Registered | Proposed Maximum | | Aggregate Offering Price(2) | Amount of Registration Fee |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Amount to be Registered(1) | Offering Price Per Share(2) | | |
| <S> | <C> | <C> | <C> | <C> |
| Options to Purchase Common Stock under the 1998 Plan | Indefinite | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options granted under the 1998 Plan | 300,000 shares | \$32.0625 | \$9,618,750 | \$2,675 |
| TOTAL: | | | \$2,675 | |

</TABLE>

- (1) In addition, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement also covers an indeterminate amount of interests to be offered or sold pursuant to the employee benefit plan described herein and any additional securities which may become issuable pursuant to anti-dilution provisions of the plan.
- (2) Estimated pursuant to Rule 457(h) solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee and based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Common Stock on October 8, 1999.

PART II
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The Registrant hereby incorporates by reference into this Registration Statement the documents listed in (a) through (c) below:

- (a) The Registrant's latest annual report filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or either (I) the latest prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act of 1933 that contains audited financial statements for the Registrant's latest fiscal year for which such statements have been filed or (II) the Registrant's effective registration statement on Form 10 or 10-SB filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 containing audited financial statements for the Registrant's latest fiscal year;
- (b) All other reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 since the end of the fiscal year covered by the Registrant document referred to in (a) above;
- (c) If the class of securities to be offered is registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the description of such class of securities contained in a registration statement filed under such Act, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all such securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not Applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Under Minnesota corporate law, a corporation shall, unless prohibited or limited by its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, indemnify its

1

directors, officers, employees and agents against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, expenses and disbursements incurred by such person who was, or is threatened to be, made a party to a proceeding by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation if generally, with respect to the acts or omissions of the person complained of in the proceeding, the person: (i) has not been indemnified by another organization with respect to the same acts or omissions; (ii) acted in good faith, (iii) received no improper personal benefit; (iv) in the case of a criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the conduct was unlawful; and (v) reasonably believed the conduct was in the best interests of the corporation or, in certain circumstances, reasonably believed that the conduct was not opposed to the best interests of the corporation. Minnesota corporate law also provides that a corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any indemnified party against any liability asserted against such person, whether or not the corporation would have been required to indemnify the person against liability under the provisions of Minnesota corporate law. The Registrant's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws do not limit the Registrant's obligation to indemnify such persons.

The Registrant's Articles of Incorporation limit the liability of its directors to the full extent permitted by the Minnesota Business

Corporation Act. Specifically, directors of the Registrant will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as directors except liability for (i) any breach of the duty of loyalty to the Registrant or its shareholders, (ii) acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) dividends or other distributions of corporate assets that are in contravention of certain statutory or contractual restrictions, (iv) violations of certain Minnesota securities laws or (v) any transaction from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

5 Opinion and Consent of Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. relating to the legality of securities under the 1998 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan.

23.1 Consent of Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. -- included in their opinion filed as Exhibit 5.

23.2 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.

24 Power of Attorney from certain directors.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

2

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To 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, represents a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement;

(iii) To 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) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed 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.

(2) That, for the purposes 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.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes 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 Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 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.

3

(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, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the 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 Act and will be governed by final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

The Registrant. 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 Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Minneapolis and State of Minnesota, on the 13th day of October, 1999.

TECHNE CORPORATION
(the "Registrant")

By: /s/ Thomas E. Oland
Thomas E. Oland, President

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

(Power of Attorney)

Each of the undersigned constitutes and appoints Thomas E. Oland and Roger C. Lucas his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, each acting alone, with full powers of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign the Form S-8

4

Registration Statement of Techne Corporation relating to the Company's 1998 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan and any or all amendments or post-effective amendments to the Form S-8 Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, each acting alone, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, each acting alone, or their substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

| Signature | Title | Date |
|--|---|------------------|
| /s/ Thomas E. Oland Thomas E. Oland | Chairman, President, Treasurer and Director (principal executive officer and principal financial and accounting officer) | October 13, 1999 |
| /s/ Christopher S. Henney Christopher S. Henney | Director | October 13, 1999 |
| /s/ G. Arthur Herbert G. Arthur Herbert | Director | October 13, 1999 |
| /s/ Roger C. Lucas Roger C. Lucas | Director | October 13, 1999 |
| /s/ Howard V. O'Connell Howard V. O'Connell | Director | October 13, 1999 |
| /s/ Lowell E. Sears Lowell E. Sears | Director | October 13, 1999 |
| /s/ Randolph C. Steer, M.D. Randolph C. Steer, M.D. | Director | October 13, 1999 |

5

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

TECHNE CORPORATION

Form S-8 Registration Statement

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Exhibit Description |
|-------------------|---|
| 5 | Opinion and Consent of counsel re securities under the Plan |
| 23.1 | Consent of counsel (See Exhibit 5) |
| 23.2 | Consent of independent accountants |
| 24 | Power of attorney (See Signature Page) |

EXHIBIT 5

FREDRIKSON & BYRON, P.A.
900 Second Avenue South, Suite 1100
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Telephone: (612) 347-7000
Facsimile: (612) 347-7077

October 13, 1999

Techne Corporation
614 McKinley Place N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-8

Ladies/Gentlemen:

We are acting as corporate counsel to Techne Corporation (the "Company") in connection with the original registration by the Company on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act") of options and 300,000 shares (the "Shares") of Common Stock issuable pursuant to the Company's 1998 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan (the "Plan").

In acting as such counsel and for the purpose of rendering this opinion, we have reviewed copies of the following, as presented to us by the Company:

1. The Company's Articles of Incorporation, as amended.
2. The Company's Bylaws, as amended.
3. Certain corporate resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors and shareholders of the Company pertaining to the adoption and approval of the Plan.
4. The Plan.
5. The Registration Statement.

Based on, and subject to, the foregoing and upon representations and information provided by the Company or its officers or directors, it is our opinion as of this date that:

1. The Shares are validly authorized by the Company's Articles of Incorporation, as amended.
2. Upon issuance and delivery of the Shares against receipt by the Company of the consideration for the Shares pursuant to the terms of the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

Very truly yours,

FREDRIKSON & BYRON, P.A.

By /s/ Melodie R. Rose

EXHIBIT 23.2

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' CONSENT

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of Techne Corporation on Form S-8 of our report dated August 20, 1999, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Techne Corporation for the year ended June 30, 1999.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota
October 8, 1999