

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

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Issuer

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of May 2005

Commission File No.: 1-31349

THE THOMSON CORPORATION

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Metro Center, One Station Place
Stamford, Connecticut 06902, United States
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F

Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): _____

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): _____

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes

No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____.

SIGNATURES

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

THE THOMSON CORPORATION

By: /s/ DEIRDRE STANLEY

Name: Deirdre Stanley

Title: Senior Vice President and General Counsel

Date: May 4, 2005

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number

Description

99.1	Press release dated May 4, 2005
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QuickLinks

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The Thomson Corporation
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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARY CIRILLO JOINS THE BOARD OF THE THOMSON CORPORATION

TORONTO, May 4, 2005 — The Board of Directors of The Thomson Corporation (NYSE:TOC; TSX:TOC) announced today that Mary Cirillo was elected to the Board at the company's annual and special meeting of shareholders in Toronto.

Ms. Cirillo, age 57, is the former Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Opcenter, LLC, an internet consulting firm. Before joining Opcenter, Ms. Cirillo served as Chief Executive Officer of Global Institutional Services at Bankers Trust. She was also a member of the Bankers Trust Management Committee and became a member of Deutsche Bank's senior management team following Deutsche Bank's acquisition of Bankers Trust. Before joining Bankers Trust, Ms. Cirillo spent 20 years at Citibank where she was most recently responsible for the Global Relationship Banking Operations and Technology Group.

Ms. Cirillo is a director of Healthcare Property Investors. In 1994, Ms. Cirillo was awarded The Star award from the New York Women's Agenda, which honors the top business and professional women in New York. She was also recognized by NextStep for her efforts in the area of workforce diversity.

The Thomson Corporation

The Thomson Corporation (www.thomson.com), with 2004 revenues of \$8.10 billion, is a global leader in providing integrated information solutions to business and professional customers. Thomson provides value-added information, software tools and applications to more than 20 million users in the fields of law, tax, accounting, financial services, higher education, reference information, corporate e-learning and assessment, scientific research and healthcare. With operational headquarters in Stamford, Conn., Thomson has approximately 40,000 employees and provides services in approximately 130 countries. The Corporation's common shares are listed on the New York and Toronto stock exchanges (NYSE: TOC; TSX: TOC).
