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[A 929,000-USD lightning bolt struck Las Vegas last week](#)

Lead

Last Thursday, 25 January, the world's most expensive motorcycle — the Jack Ehret Speed Record-Setting 1951 Vincent Black Lightning — sold for a record price at Bonhams' Las Vegas Motorcycle Auction, beating the previous record holder — the 1915 Cyclone owned by Steve McQueen — by 154,000 USD...

Built by special order for Australian Tony McAlpine, this 1951 Vincent 998cc Black Lightning, number 7305, is one of approximately 30 models ever built by the British factory. And while this rarity surely helped it achieve the impressive price of 929,000 USD (including hammer), the fact that it had only four owners, with one of those being Jack Ehret, who ended up beating the Australian land speed record while astride this machine, at an average speed of 141.5mph, certainly didn't hinder the outcome — can you say jackpot?

Photo: Bonhams

Gallery

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