

Miss Supertest III



Miss Supertest III, an Unlimited Class hydroplane, was designed and built by Canadians. She won the 1959 Detroit Memorial Regatta and the 1959, 1960 and 1961 Harmsworth Trophy races, the only four races she ever entered. She is also the only three-time winner of the Harmsworth and the boat that broke the 39-year-long American stranglehold on that coveted trophy.

Racing out of Sarnia, Ontario, Miss Supertest III was owned by J. Gordon Thompson, owner of Supertest Petroleum (later acquired by British Petroleum) and designed by his son Jim Thompson who also served as test driver and team manager. Bob Hayward was behind the wheel for every race. Miss Supertest III was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 1961.

The first Miss Supertest was originally known as Miss Canada IV which was the first Canadian challenger for the Harmsworth Trophy. Miss Canada IV lost her challenge to the US built Skip-A-Long in 1949 and then to the Americans again in 1950 when she was defeated by Slo-Mo-Shun.

The Thompsons retired from racing following the death of Bob Hayward in 1961 while racing Miss Supertest II in Detroit a month after winning the 1961 Harmsworth with Miss Supertest III.

In 2011, Canada Post issued two commemorative stamps honoring Miss Supertest III's 50th Anniversary of her defense of the Harmsworth Cup, her driver Bob Hayward, and owner-designer Jim Thompson.

Miss Supertest III is now a part of the Murray Walker Antique and Vintage Race Boat Collection. She will be a star attraction at a Canadian Race Boat Hall of Fame in Muskoka that will also feature a collection of other great Canadian race boats.

Miss Supertest III Specifications

Year Built:	1959	Designer:	Jim Thompson
Power:	Rolls-Royce V12 Griffon Mk65	Driver:	Bob Hayward
H.P.....	2750	Races:	Detroit Memorial July 1959..... Winner
Length:.....	30' 8"		Harmsworth Cup August 1959..... Winner
Beam:	12' 6"		Harmsworth Cup August 1960..... Winner
Weight:	6500lbs		Harmsworth Cup August 1961..... Winner