Supporting Materials

For

Reactivity of A Two-Coordinate Cobalt(o) Cyclic (Alkyl)(amino)carbene Complex

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| | 2 | 2' | 4a | 4b | 4' |
|-----------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C1-N1 | 1.352(5) | 1.355(5) | 1.300(4) | 1.301(4) | 1.308(3) |
| C2-N2 | 1.343(5) | 1.358(5) | 1.300(4) | 1.301(4) | 1.313(3) |
| C1-Co | 1.868(4) | 1.882(4) | 1.944(3) | 1.951(4) | 1.957(2) |
| C2-Co | 1.872(4) | 1.875(4) | 1.944(3) | 1.951(4) | 1.957(2) |
| C1-C0-C2 | 170.66(18) | 170.48(18) | 180.00(8) | 180.00(8) | 168.35(9) |
| α | 71.11 | 68.19 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 55.95 |
| $\mu_{\rm eff}$ | 3.7(1) | 2.0 | 4.8(1) | 4.8(1) | 3.2 |

Table S1. Key Distances (Å), Angles (°) and Solution Magnetic Moments (μ B) of **2**, [(Et₂-cAAC)₂Co](**2**'), **4**, and [(Et₂-cAAC)₂Co][BAr^F₄](**4**')

Data for 2' and 4' is extracted from ref. 1. 4a and 4b are two crystallographically independent molecules in the asymmetric unit. α Dihedral angles between the two central plane of R₂-cAAC, R = Me, Et.

Ref. 1: Ung, G.; Rittle, J.; Soleilhavoup, M.; Bertrand, G.; Peters, J. C. Two-Coordinate Fe^o and Co^o Complexes Supported by Cyclic (alkyl)(amino)carbenes. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 8427–8431.

| Compound | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4•Et ₂ 0 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| formula | $C_{40}H_{62}CICoN_2$ | $C_{40}H_{62}CoN_2$ | $C_{40}H_{62}BrCoN_2$ | C ₇₆ H ₈₄ BCoF ₂₄ N ₂ O |
| crystal size | 0.16 x 0.12 x | 0.25 x 0.22 | 0.22 x 0.16 x | 0.25 x 0.22 x |
| (mm³) | 0.08 | x 0.16 | 0.12 | 0.20 |
| fw | 665.30 | 629.85 | 709.75 | 1567.19 |
| crystal system | monoclinic | triclinic | monoclinic | triclinic |
| space group | P 21/c | P-1 | P 21/c | P-1 |
| <i>a,</i> Å | 11.1897(17) | 9.122(5) | 11.2075(6) | 12.7124(12) |
| <i>b,</i> Å | 19.458(3) | 12.200(6) | 19.4931(10) | 13.0186(13) |
| <i>c,</i> Å | 16.905(3) | 18.008(10) | 16.9336(9) | 24.968(3) |
| lpha, deg | 90 | 82.291(10) | 90 | 93.374(2) |
| eta, deg | 97.299(3) | 76.953(10) | 97.3880(10) | 102.425(2) |
| γ, deg | 90 | 87.823(9) | 90 | 109.126(2) |
| <i>V,</i> Å ³ | 3650.8(10) | 1934.5(18) | 3668.8(3) | 3774.9(6) |
| Ζ | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| D_{calcd} , Mg/m ³ | 1.210 | 1.081 | 1.285 | 1.379 |
| radiation (λ), | Mo K $lpha$ | Μο Κα | Μο Κα | ΜοΚα |
| Å | (0.71073) | (0.71073) | (0.71073) | (0.71073) |
| 2 Arango dog | 3.200 to | 2.340 to | 3 661 to 61 182 | 1.686 to |
| 20 range, deg | 61.340 | 52.000 | 5.004 10 01.182 | 52.000 |
| μ , mm ⁻¹ | 0.573 | 0.470 | 1.586 | 0.331 |
| F(000) | 1440 | 686 | 1512 | 1620 |
| no. of obsd reflns | 35946 | 14337 | 36940 | 27777 |
| no. of params refnd | 413 | 404 | 413 | 1021 |
| goodness of fit | 1.003 | 0.933 | 1.016 | 1.024 |
| R1 | 0.0579 | 0.0766 | 0.0351 | 0.0633 |
| <i>w</i> R2 | 0.1242 | 0.1709 | 0.0841 | 0.1466 |

Table S2. X-ray Crystallography Data for 1 – 4.

| Compound | 6 | 7 | 9 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| formula | C ₆₅ H ₈₈ CoN ₄ | C ₄₇ H ₅₈ CoN ₄ | C ₄₆ H ₇₂ CoN ₂ |
| crystal size | 0.33 x 0.11 x | 0.20 x 0.15 x | 0.25 x 0.20 x |
| (mm³) | 0.05 | 0.18 | 0.08 |
| fw | 984.32 | 737.90 | 711.98 |
| crystal system | orthorhombic | monoclinic | monoclinic |
| space group | РЬса | P 21/c | С 2/с |
| <i>a,</i> Å | 23.095(2) | 20.407(3) | 20.4464(17) |
| <i>b,</i> Å | 18.2606(17) | 11.0093(19) | 10.9375(9) |
| <i>c,</i> Å | 27.518(3) | 18.572(3) | 18.8522(16) |
| lpha, deg | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| eta, deg | 90 | 96.869(3) | 99.648(2) |
| γ, deg | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| <i>V</i> , Å ³ | 11605.1(19) | 4142.5(12) | 4156.3(6) |
| Ζ | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| D_{calcd} , Mg/m ³ | 1.127 | 1.183 | 1.138 |
| radiation (λ), | Mo K $lpha$ | Mo K $lpha$ | Mo K $lpha$ |
| Å | (0.71073) | (0.71073) | (0.71073) |
| 2θ range, deg | 2.960 to | 2.010 to | 4.042 to |
| 20101180,008 | 52.000 | 50.604 | 52.000 |
| <i>μ</i> , mm⁻¹ | 0.337 | 0.450 | 0.445 |
| F(000) | 4264 | 1580 | 1556 |
| no. of obsd | 81409 | 7511 | 14856 |
| refins | | | |
| no. of params refnd | 653 | 484 | 231 |
| goodness of fit | 0.996 | 1.116 | 0.993 |
| R1 | 0.0486 | 0.0759 | 0.0541 |
| wR2 | 0.1025 | 0.200 | 0.1435 |

Table S3. X-ray Crystallography Data for 6, 7, and 9.

| | S = 1/2 (kcal/mol) | S = 3/2 (kcal/mol) |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 6 ^a | 0 | 32.2 |
| 9 ^b | 0 | 37.1 |

Table S4. Relative Energies of 6 and 9 at Their Doublet and Quartet States

^{a.} Calculation at the BP86 level of thoery. ^{b.} Calculation at the B3LYP level of theorey.



Figure S1. Cyclic voltammogram (100 mV/s) of **4** in THF, containing 0.1 M $^{n}Bu_{4}NPF_{4}$ as supporting electrolyte [$E_{1/2} = -1.15$ V versus (Cp₂Fe)/(Cp₂Fe)⁺].

Molecular Structures



Figure S2. Molecular structure of **1**. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°): C01-C1 1.936(3), C01-C2 1.920(3), C01-Cl1 2.2661(8), C1-N1 1.332(3), C2-N2 1.333(3), C1-C3 1.538(4), C2-C22 1.534(4), C1-C01-C2 121.36(11), C1-C01-Cl1 119.57(8), C2-C01-Cl1 119.00(8).



Figure S3. Variable temperature SQUID (superconducting quantum interference device) magnetic moment data for 2 (blue), 4 (green), and 9 (red) over the range 2 - 300 K. (These data were collected under a 1 kOe applied dc field).



Figure S4. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 1 recorded at room temperature in THF.



Figure S₅. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 2 recorded at room temperature in THF.



Figure S6. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 3 recorded at room temperature in THF.



Figure S₇. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 4 recorded at room temperature in THF.



Figure S8. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 5 recorded at room temperature in benzene.



Figure S9. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 6 recorded at room temperature in benzene.



Figure S10. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 7 recorded at room temperature in benzene.



Figure S11. UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of 9 recorded at room temperature in benzene.





Figure S12. ¹H NMR spectrum for 1.



Figure S13. ¹H NMR spectrum for 2.



Figure S14. ¹H NMR spectrum for 3.



Figure S15. ¹H NMR spectrum for 4.



Figure S16. ¹H NMR spectrum for 5.



Figure S17. ¹H NMR spectrum for **6**.



Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectrum for 7.



Figure S19. ¹H NMR spectrum for 9.



Figure S20. ¹H NMR spectrum for reaction of **2** with $n-C_8H_{17}Cl$.



Figure S21. ¹H NMR spectrum for reaction of **2** with $n-C_8H_{17}Br$.



Figure S22. ¹³C NMR spectrum for reaction of **2** with **2**,6-Me₂PhNC.



Figure S23. ¹H NMR spectrum for 8.



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Figure S25. IR spectrum for 8.

Figure S26. GC spectrum of the mixture formed from the reaction of 2 with MesBr in THF at room temperture after 12 hours.

Figure S27. GC spectrum of the mixture formed from the reaction of 2 with $n-C_8H_{17}Cl$ in THF at room temperture after 12 hours.

Figure S28. GC spectrum of the mixture formed from the reaction of 2 with $n-C_8H_{17}Br$ in THF at room temperture after 12 hours.

Figure S29. Mulliken spin populations of 6 (S = 1/2). The distribution of spin density: 0.88 in Co and 0.24 in C.

Figure S30. Mulliken spin populations of **9** (S = 1/2). The distribution of spin density: 1.20 in Co.

Figure S31. UNOs of **6** (S = 1/2).

Figure S32. UNOs of **9** (S = 1/2).