

*Supporting Information for*

# Tuning the Electronic Effects of a Redox-Active Triamido Ligand in d<sup>0</sup> Tantalum Complexes

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**Figure S1.** EPR spectra of <sup>X,R</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6a-f**) collected at 298 K in C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>.  
<sup>OMe,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6a**, *black*), <sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6b**, *blue*), <sup>H,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6c**, *green*), <sup>Me,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6d**, *red*), <sup>tBu,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6e**, *orange*),  
<sup>OMe,DMP</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6f**, *black, dotted line*). 3

**Figure S2-5.** EPR spectra of <sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6b**, **6c**, **6e**, **6f**) collected at 298 K in C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub> (**expt**) and the corresponding simulated spectrum (**sim**). 3-5

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<sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7b**, *blue*), <sup>H,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7c**, *green*),  
<sup>Me,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7d**, *red*), <sup>OMe,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-CF<sub>3</sub></sup>) (**8a**, *grey*),  
<sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-CF<sub>3</sub></sup>) (**8b**, *light blue*),  
<sup>OMe,DMP</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-Me</sup>) (**9a**, *brown*). 5

**Figure S7-11.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of the diamagnetic compounds **7b** and **8b**. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **7b**. 6-8

**Table S1.** X-ray diffraction data for the tantalum complexes of the general formula <sup>X,R</sup>(NNN<sup>cat</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub> (**3b-f**). 9

**Table S2.** X-ray diffraction data for <sup>OMe,DMP</sup>(NNN<sup>sq</sup>)TaCl<sub>3</sub> (**6f**),  
<sup>OMe,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7a**) and <sup>Me,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7d**). 10

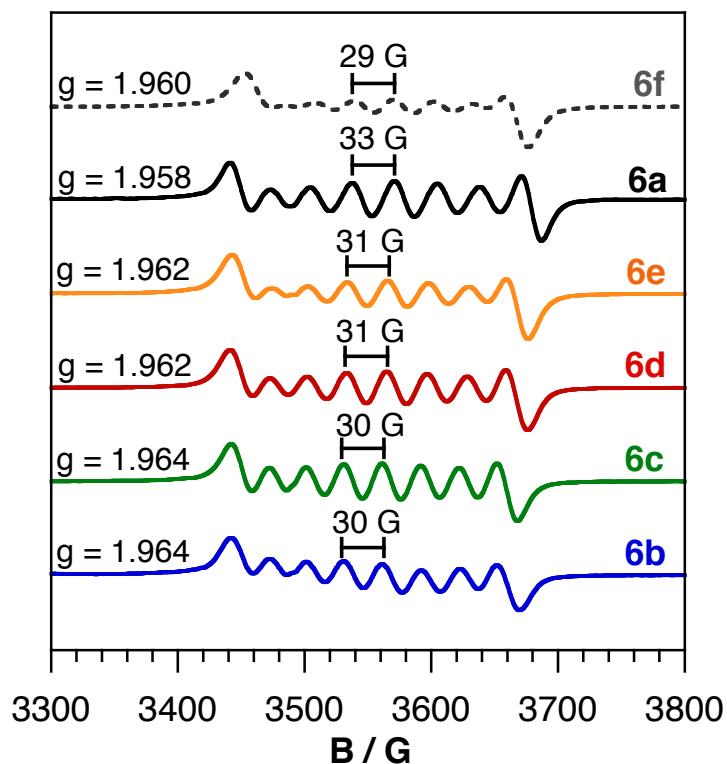
**Figure S12.** ORTEP diagram for <sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>cat</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub> (**3b**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Co-crystallized solvent molecules and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. 11

**Figure S13.** ORTEP diagram for <sup>H,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>cat</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub> (**3c**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. One molecule of the asymmetric unit shown, where hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. 11

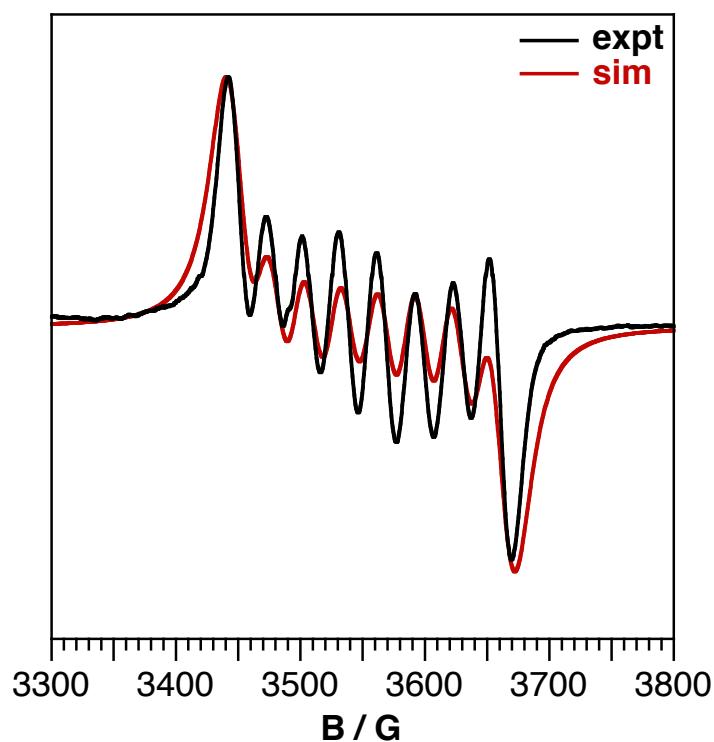
**Figure S14.** ORTEP diagram for <sup>tBu,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>cat</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub> (**3e**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. 12

**Figure S15.** ORTEP diagram for  $^{\text{OMe}, \text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2$  ( $\text{NPh}^{4-\text{tBu}}$ ) (**7a**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Co-crystallized solvent molecules and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

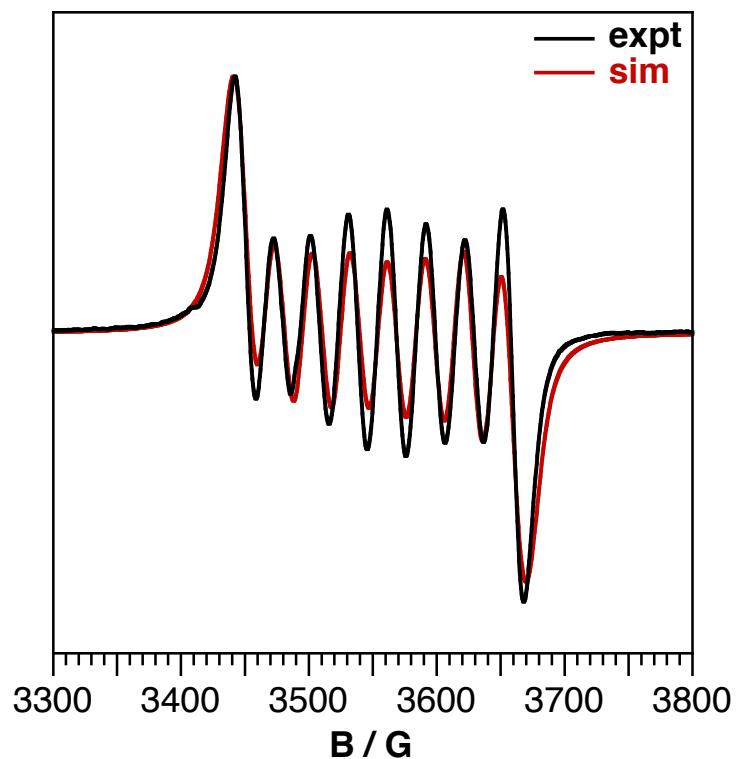
## Spectroscopic Data ${}^{X,R}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$



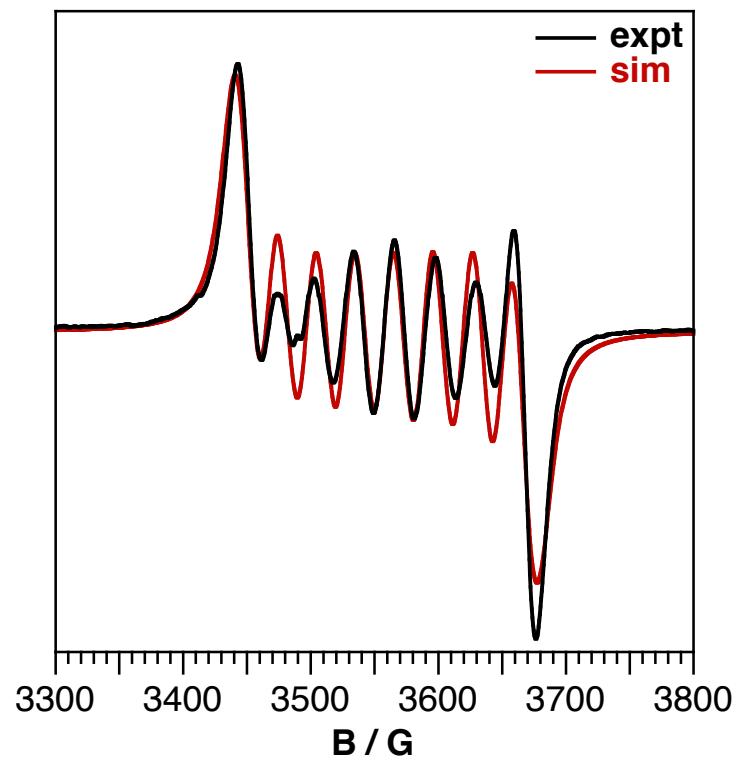
**Figure S1.** EPR spectra of  ${}^{X,R}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6a-f**) collected at 298 K in  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$ .  ${}^{\text{OMe},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6a**, *black*),  ${}^{\text{F},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6b**, *blue*),  ${}^{\text{H},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6c**, *green*),  ${}^{\text{Me},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6d**, *red*),  ${}^{\text{tBu},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6e**, *orange*),  ${}^{\text{OMe},\text{DMP}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6f**, *black, dotted line*).



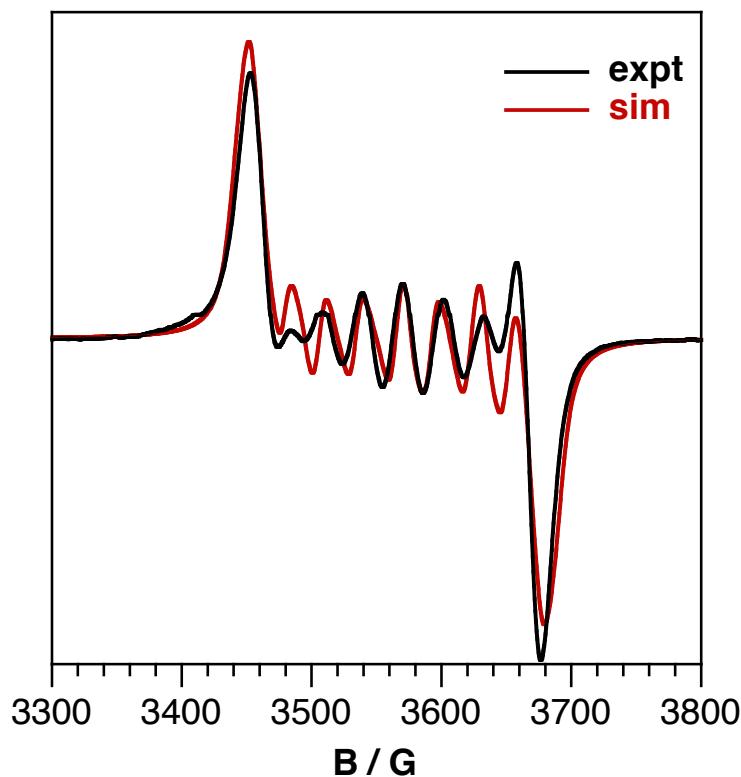
**Figure S2.** EPR spectrum of  ${}^{\text{F},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6b**) collected at 298 K in  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$  (**expt**) and the corresponding simulated spectrum (**sim**).



**Figure S3.** EPR spectrum of  ${}^{\text{H},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6c**) collected at 298 K in  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$  (**expt**) and the corresponding simulated spectrum (**sim**).

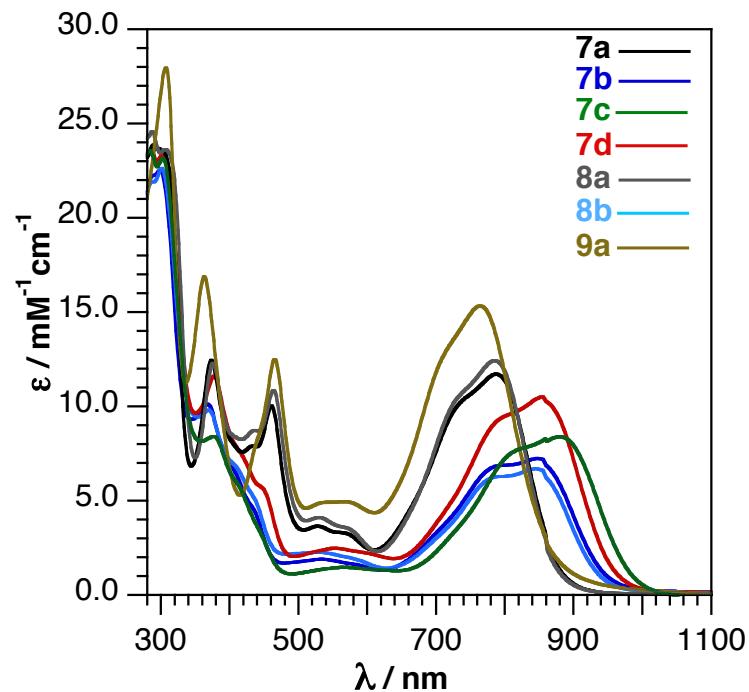


**Figure S4.** EPR spectrum of  ${}^{\text{tBu},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6e**) collected at 298 K in  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$  (**expt**) and the corresponding simulated spectrum (**sim**).



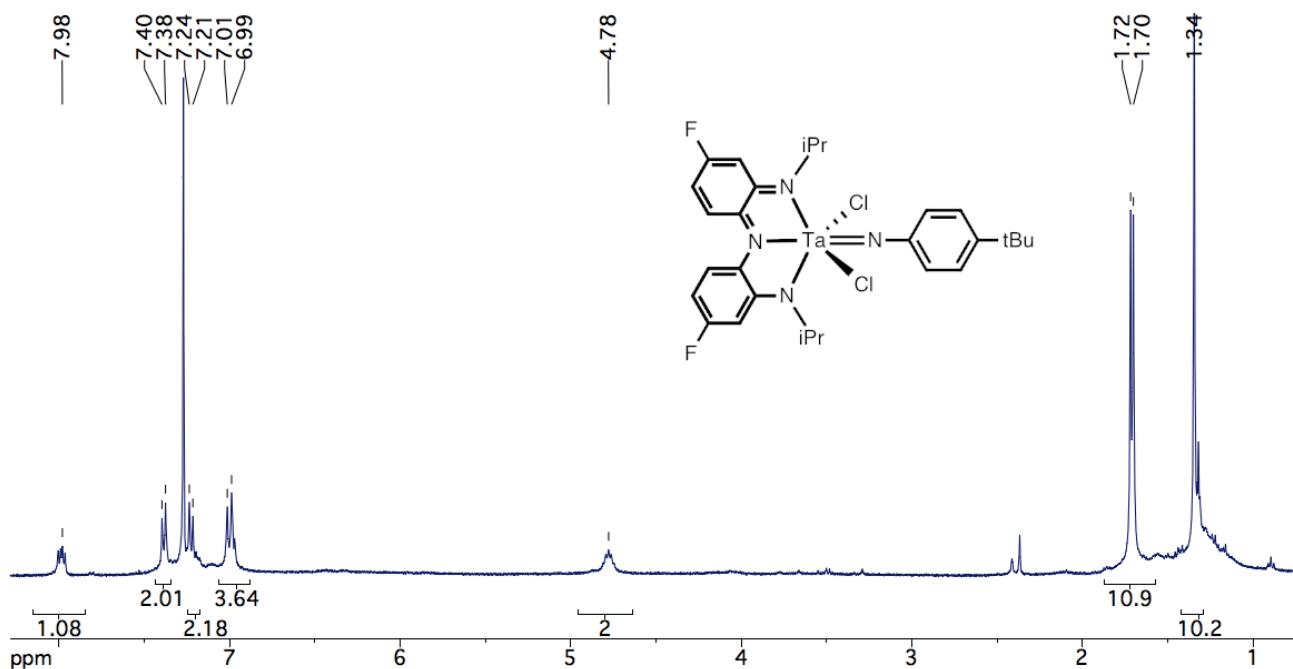
**Figure S5.** EPR spectrum of  $^{\text{OMe},\text{DMP}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6f**) collected at 298 K in  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$  (**expt**) and the corresponding simulated spectrum (**sim**).

### Spectroscopic Data ${}^{\text{X,R}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{R}'})$

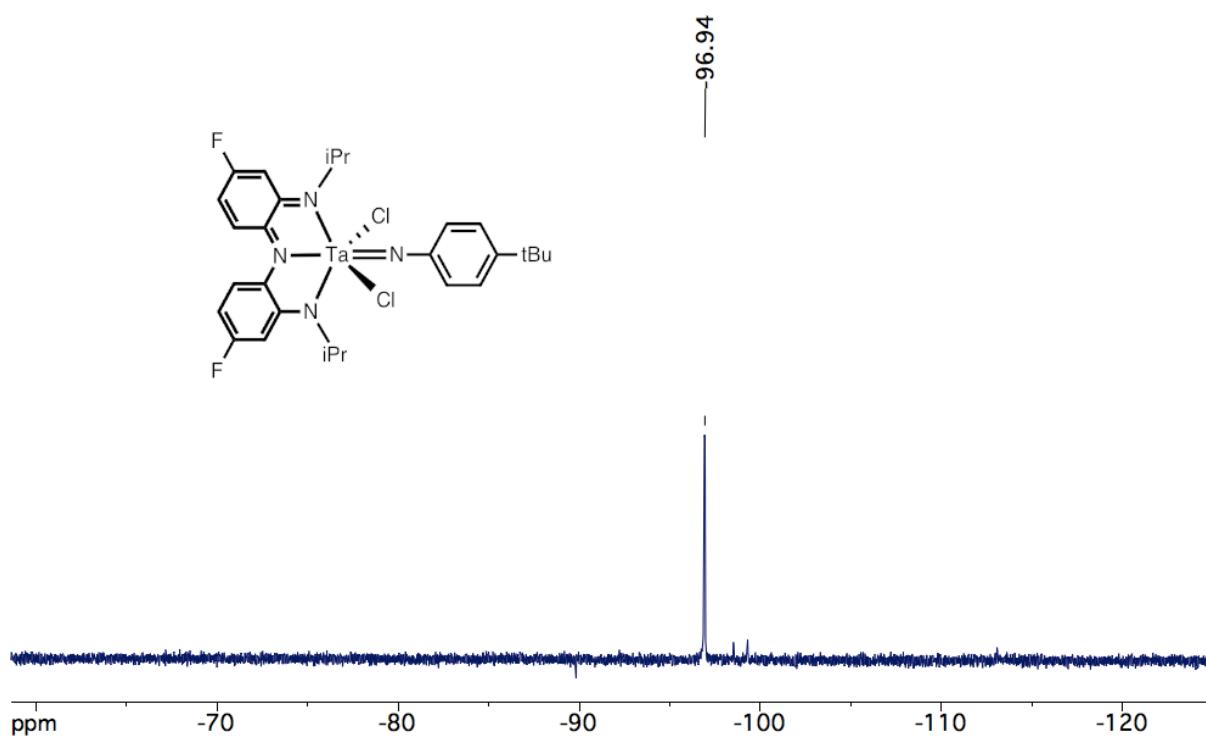


**Figure S6.** Uv-vis-NIR spectra of  ${}^{\text{X,R}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{R}'})$  (**7a-d, 8a-b, 9a**) collected at 298 K in THF.  ${}^{\text{OMe},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{tBu}})$  (**7a**, *black*),  ${}^{\text{F,iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{tBu}})$  (**7b**, *blue*),  ${}^{\text{H,iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{tBu}})$  (**7c**, *green*),  ${}^{\text{Me,iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{tBu}})$  (**7d**, *red*),  ${}^{\text{OMe},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{CF}_3})$  (**8a**, *grey*),  ${}^{\text{F,iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{CF}_3})$  (**8b**, *light blue*),  ${}^{\text{OMe},\text{DMP}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Me}})$  (**9a**, *brown*, *dotted line*).

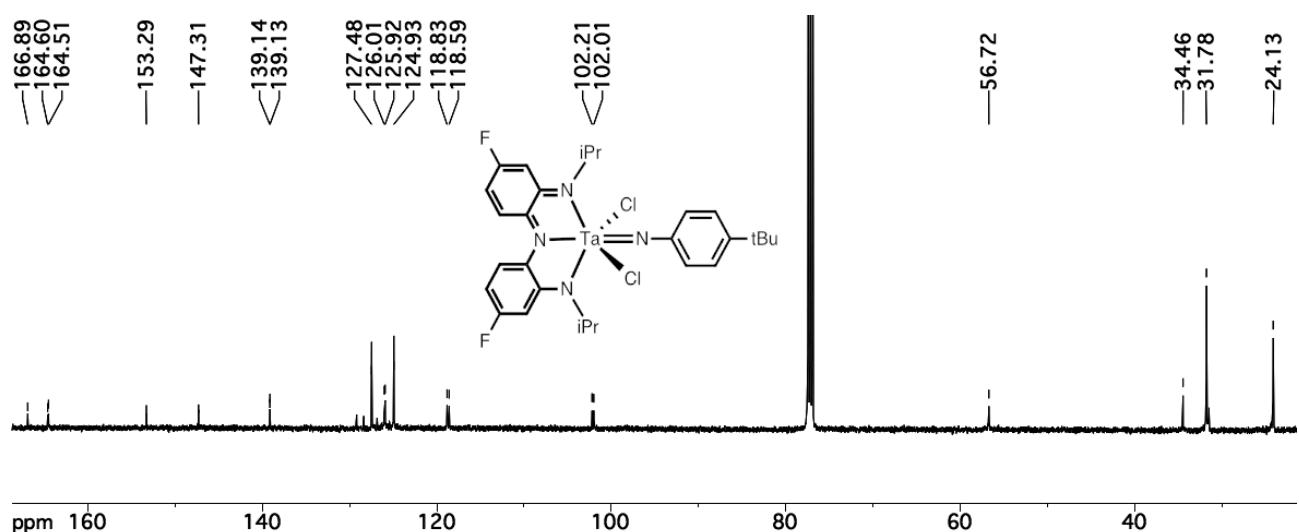
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of the diamagnetic compounds 7b and 8b. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 7b.**



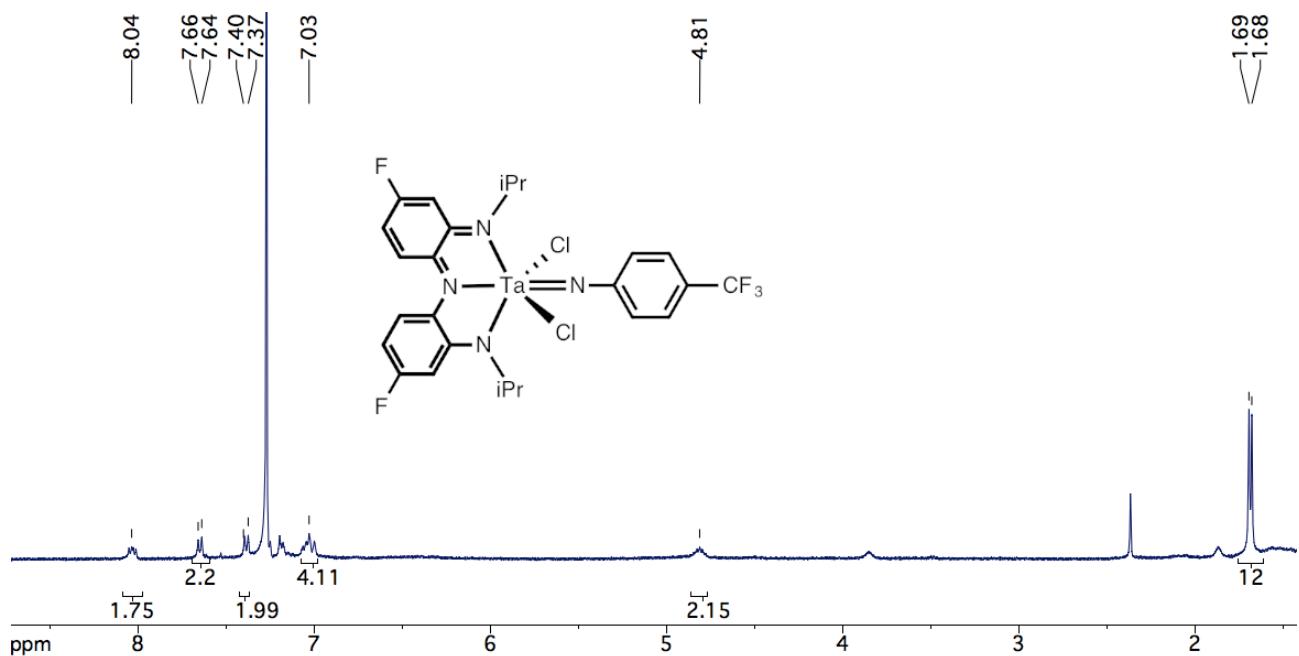
**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of <sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7b**) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298K.



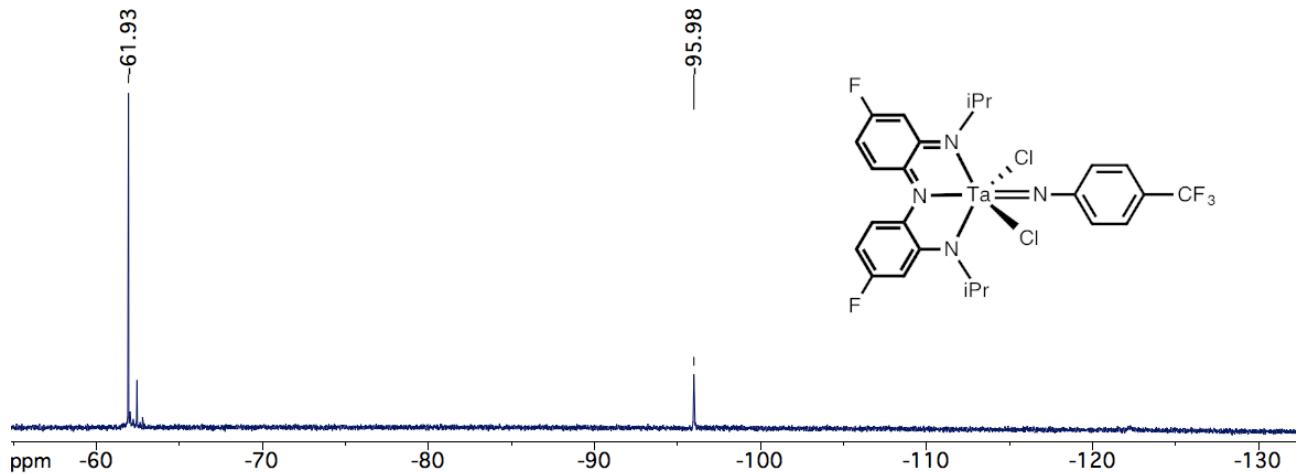
**Figure S8.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of <sup>F,iPr</sup>(NNN<sup>q</sup>)TaCl<sub>2</sub>(NPh<sup>4-tBu</sup>) (**7b**) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298K.



**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  ${}^{\text{F},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^4\text{-tBu})$  (**7b**) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298K.



**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  ${}^{\text{F},\text{iPr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^4\text{-CF}_3)$  (**8b**) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298K.



**Figure S11.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{F},\text{iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{CF}_3})$  (**8b**) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298K.

# Crystallographic Data

**Table S1.** X-ray diffraction data for the tantalum complexes of the general formula  $\text{X}^{\text{R}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$  (**3b-f**).

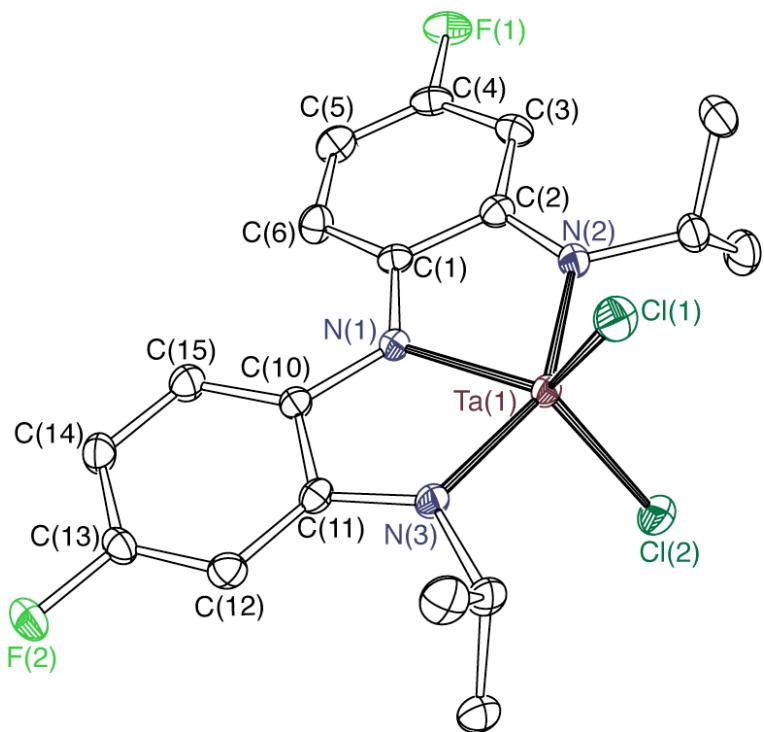
	$\text{Et}_{\text{i}}\text{Pr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$ <b>3b, (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>0.5</sub></b>	$\text{Et}_{\text{i}}\text{Pr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$ <b>3c</b>	$\text{Me},\text{iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$ <b>3d, (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)</b>	$\text{tBu},\text{iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$ <b>3e</b>	$\text{OMe},\text{DMP}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$ <b>3f-(OEt<sub>2</sub>)</b>
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{F}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta},$ (C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ) <sub>0.5</sub>	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}$	$\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_3\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta},$ (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> )	$\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_3\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}$	$\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}$
Formula weight	614.29	532.24	638.39	644.44	790.54
Crystal system	<i>Triclinic</i>	<i>Monoclinic</i>	<i>Orthorhombic</i>	<i>Monoclinic</i>	<i>Orthorhombic</i>
Space group	<i>P-1</i>	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/c</i>	<i>Pnma</i>	<i>C2/c</i>	<i>Pbca</i>
<i>T</i> (K)	88(2)	88(2)	143(2)	88(2)	143(2)
<i>a</i> / Å	7.4773(4)	11.2405(15)	9.8131(6)	22.2922(10)	15.8487(8)
<i>b</i> / Å	11.8614(6)	22.330(3)	10.6877(6)	19.3663(9)	15.9239(8)
<i>c</i> / Å	12.6098(7)	14.758(2)	23.9902(14)	12.6188(6)	25.9100(14)
$\alpha$ / °	76.4926(5)	90	90	90	90
$\beta$ / °	81.4203(6)	94.6604(16)	90	95.5609(5)	90
$\gamma$ / °	87.9507(6)	90	90	90	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1075.27(10)	3692.2(9)	2516.1(3)	5422.1(4)	6539.0(6)
<i>Z</i>	2	8	4	8	8
Reflections collected	13030	43506	26584	32484	67516
data/restraints/parameters	5156 / 0 / 302	9122 / 0 / 441	2789 / 0 / 146	6742 / 0 / 299	6694 / 0 / 396
R1 [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] <sup>a</sup>	0.0144	0.0271	0.0205	0.0146	0.0263
wR2 (all data) <sup>a</sup>	0.0358	0.0576	0.0529	0.0348	0.0584
GOF <sup>a</sup>	1.056	1.096	1.123	1.036	1.018

<sup>a</sup> R1 =  $\Sigma ||\text{F}_o|| - |\text{F}_c||/\Sigma |\text{F}_o|$ ; wR2 =  $[\Sigma |w(\text{F}_o^2 - \text{F}_c^2)^2|/\Sigma |w(\text{F}_o^2)|]^1/2$ ; GOF =  $[\sum w(|\text{F}_o| - |\text{F}_c|)^2/(n - m)]^{1/2}$

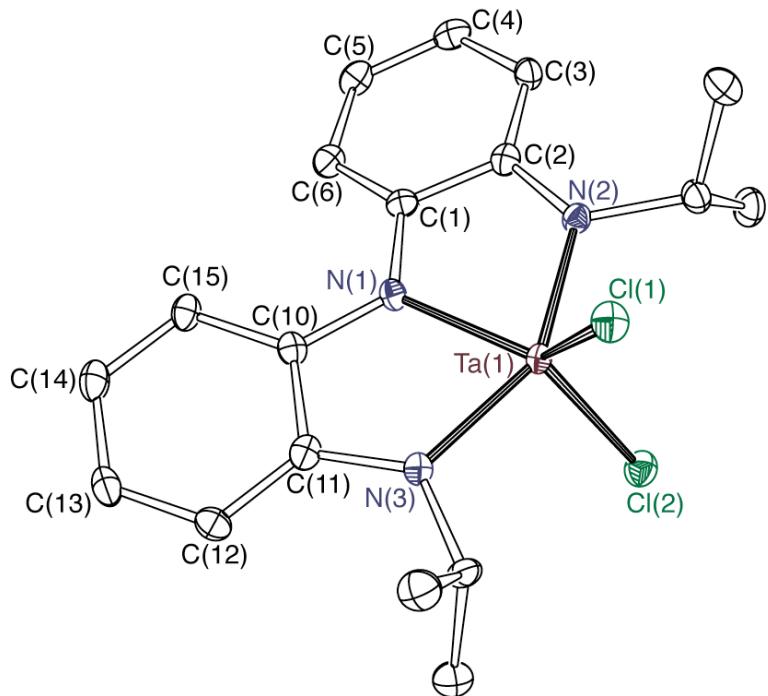
**Table S2.** X-ray diffraction data for  $\text{OMe,DMP}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$  (**6f**),  $\text{OMe,iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Bu}})$  (**7a**),  $\text{Me,iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Bu}})$  (**7d**).

	$\text{OMe,DMP}(\text{NNN}^{\text{sq}})\text{TaCl}_3$	$\text{OMe,iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Bu}})$	$\text{Me,iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Bu}})$	$\text{OMe,iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Bu}})$	$\text{Me,iPr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2(\text{NPh}^{4-\text{Bu}})$
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{Cl}_3\text{Ta}, (\text{C}_7\text{H}_8)_3$	$\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}, (\text{C}_7\text{H}_8)_{3.5}$	$\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}, (\text{C}_7\text{H}_8)$	$\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}, (\text{C}_7\text{H}_8)$	$\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{Ta}, (\text{C}_7\text{H}_8)$
Formula weight	844.00		1057.94		799.63
Crystal system	<i>Monoclinic</i>		<i>Triclinic</i>		<i>Triclinic</i>
Space group	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/n</i>		<i>P-1</i>		<i>P-1</i>
<i>T</i> (K)	143(2)		143(2)		143(2)
<i>a</i> / Å	7.9327(5)		10.9766(7)		9.5476(7)
<i>b</i> / Å	22.8472(15)		13.0697(9)		12.9593(9)
<i>c</i> / Å	19.0689(13)		19.1327(13)		14.6178(10)
$\alpha$ / °	90		108.9610(10)		82.2726(8)
$\beta$ / °	92.0210(10)		101.4700(10)		84.9424(8)
$\gamma$ / °	90		91.2710(10)		81.0999(8)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3453.9(4)		2532.8(3)		1766.5(2)
<i>Z</i>	4		2		2
Reflections collected	29030		25586		20136
data/restraints/parameters	7991 / 0 / 415		9282 / 0 / 574		8026 / 0 / 407
R1 [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] <sup>a</sup>	0.0362		0.0259		0.0240
wR2 (all data) <sup>a</sup>	0.0876		0.0648		0.0593
GOF <sup>a</sup>	1.074		1.047		1.066

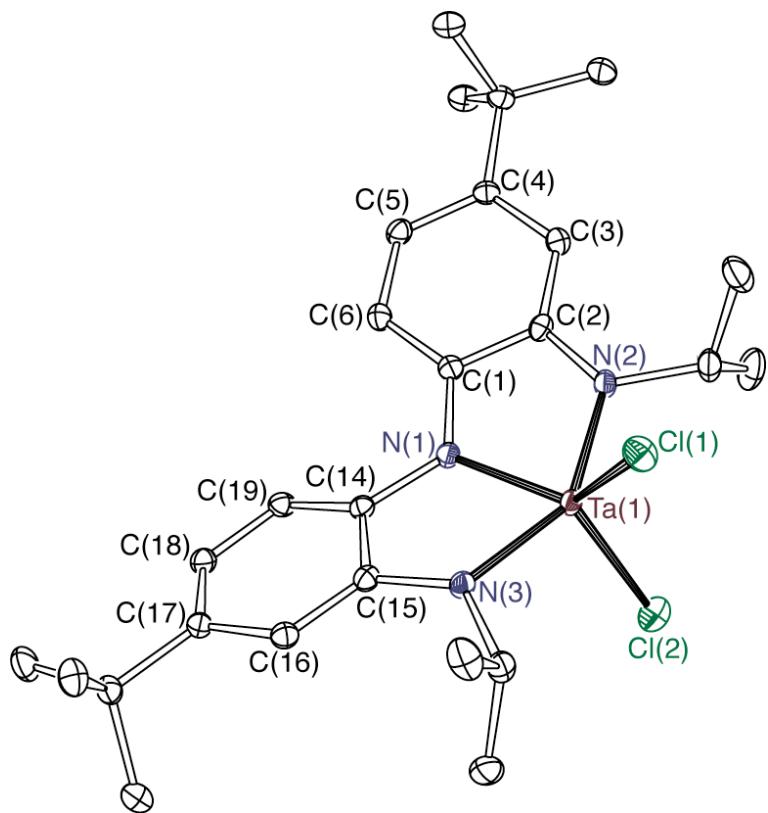
<sup>a</sup> R1 =  $\Sigma \|F_o - |F_c\|/\Sigma|F_o\|$ ; wR2 =  $[\Sigma [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]/\Sigma [w(F_o^2)^2]]^{1/2}$ ; GOF =  $[\Sigma w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2/(n - m)]^{1/2}$



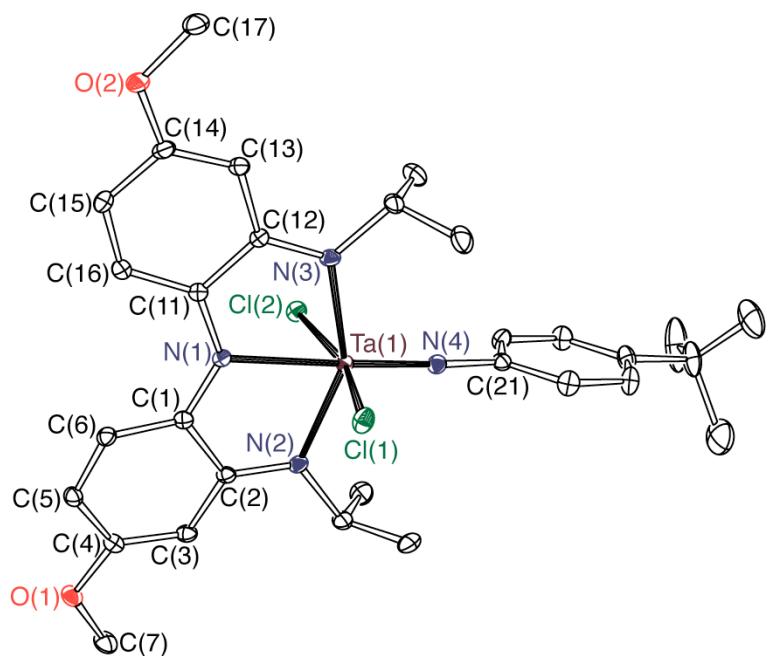
**Figure S12.** ORTEP diagram for  $F,iPr(NNN^{cat})TaCl_2$  (**3b**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Co-crystallized solvent molecules and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure S13.** ORTEP diagram for  $H,iPr(NNN^{cat})TaCl_2$  (**3c**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. One molecule of the asymmetric unit shown, where hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure S14.** ORTEP diagram for  $t\text{Bu},i\text{Pr}(\text{NNN}^{\text{cat}})\text{TaCl}_2$  (**3e**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure S15.** ORTEP diagram for  $^{\text{OMe},i\text{Pr}}(\text{NNN}^{\text{q}})\text{TaCl}_2$  ( $\text{NPh}^{4-\text{tBu}}$ ) (**7a**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability. Co-crystallized solvent molecules and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.