

## Supporting Information

### **Ionic Rhodium Catalyzed Reductive N-Heterocyclization of 2-Nitrovinylarenes**

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**General:**

The ionic diamine rhodium complex **1** was prepared from  $[\text{Rh}(\text{COD})\text{Cl}]_2$  as previously described.<sup>1</sup> 2-Nitrocinnamaldehyde **2k** and 2-nitrochalcone **2p** were purchased from Alfa Aesar and were used without further purification.

Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra ( $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR) were recorded in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , containing TMS as an internal standard, on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm, and coupling constants ( $J$ ) are given in Hz. Mass spectra were determined using a VG 7070E spectrometer.

**General Procedure for the Reductive N-Cyclization of 2:**

The 2-nitrovinylarenes (1.0 mmol), complex **1** (0.05 mmol, 25.6 mg) and THF (3 mL) were placed into a glass liner, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The glass liner was then inserted into a 45 mL autoclave. The autoclave was flushed five times with carbon monoxide and pressurized to 100 psi. The autoclave was heated at 100 °C with stirring. After the reaction, the autoclave was cooled to rt prior to the release of carbon monoxide. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the product was purified by silica gel column chromatography with n-hexane and diethyl ether as the eluant.

















































