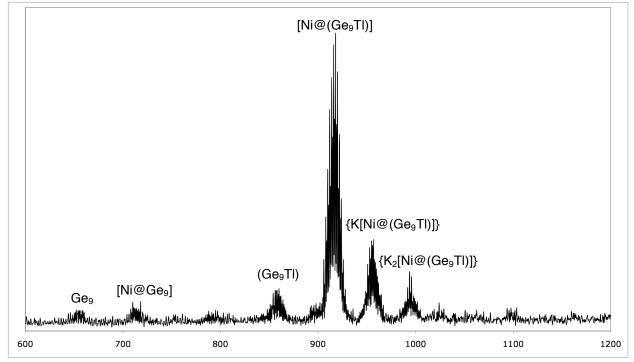
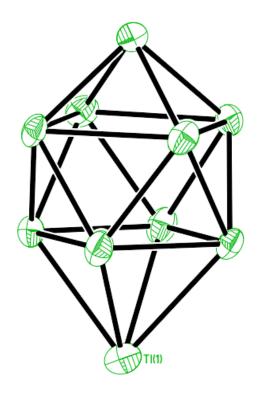
## **Supporting Information**

## Addition of a Thallium Vertex to Empty and Centered Nine-Atom Deltahedral Zintl Ions of Germanium and Tin

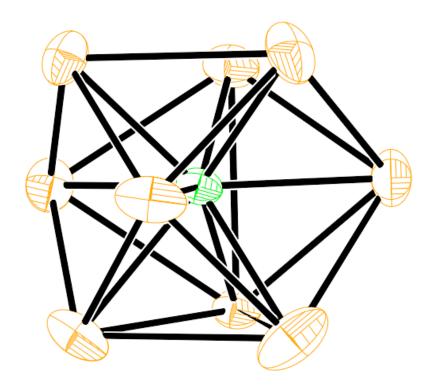
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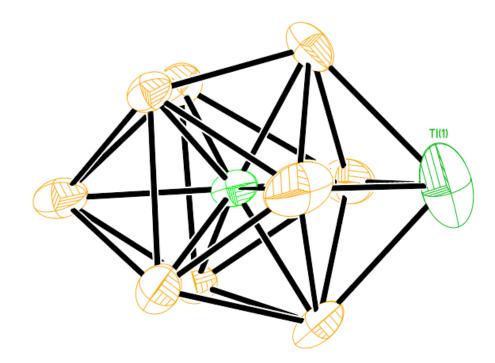
**Figure S1.** The full electrospray mass spectrum (m/z: 600 – 1200) in negative ion mode of the reaction solution producing  $[Ni@(Ge_9Tl)]^{3-}$ . Notice that the uncapped  $[Ni@Ge_9]$  clusters are in only negligible amount which indicates that the Tl-atom in the capped clusters is an intergral part of the cluster and is not simply Tl<sup>+</sup> cation.



**Figure S2.** An ORTEP view of the *closo*- $[Ge_9TI]^{3-}$  cluster with the shape of a bicapped square antiprism where one of the caps is the thallium atom (thermal ellipsoids at the 70 % probability level).



**Figure S3.** An ORTEP view the Ni-centered  $[Ni@Sn_9]^{3-}$  with the shape of a distorted tricapped trigonal prism (thermal ellipsoids at the 70 % probability level).



**Figure S4.** An ORTEP view the Ni-centered Tl-capped cluster  $[Ni@Sn_9Tl]^{3-}$  with the shape of a bicapped square antiprism (thermal ellipsoids at the 70 % probability level).