

# Name Reagents

## Raney/Fremy/McMurry/Schwartz/Collman

Many specialized reagents are best known by the names of the chemists who first prepared and popularized them. A good example is Raney Nickel®, a hydrogenation catalyst that can be used in a variety of forms1 for selective

The chemistry of Fremy's salt (potassium nitrosodisulfonate), first made available by Aldrich over 20 years ago, has also been studied for many years.<sup>2</sup> Selective oxidations using Fremy's salt have been extended to phase-transfer systems such as the conversion of a phenol to a quinone.<sup>3</sup>

Fremy's salt has also been used in the initial step of a twostep conversion of polycyclic phenols to dihydrodiols,4 and in an improved synthesis of 2-acetamido-3-iodo-p-benzoquinone from o-acetamidophenol.5

McMurry's reagent, available as a 4:1 TiCl<sub>3</sub>/LiAlH<sub>4</sub> dry mixture, has proven useful for numerous deoxygenations and reductions.<sup>6</sup> Aldrich also offers Modified McMurry's reagent, 2:1 TiCl<sub>3</sub>/LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, which was recommended by Lai<sup>7</sup>

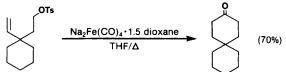
in a recent review of organic reductive coupling and utilized by Bechara and Wilson<sup>8</sup> in the preparation of symmetrical

olefins from ketones. From an ESR-spectroscopy study of the reaction mechanism of Ti-induced reductive coupling of ketones to olefins, Geise and co-workers9 concluded that a 2:1 TiCl<sub>3</sub>/LiAlH<sub>4</sub> ratio gives optimum results.

Schwartz's reagent, bis(cyclopentadienyl)zirconium chloride hydride, combines with olefins to afford organozirconium complexes which have a variety of applications in organic synthesis. 10,11 Extension of this chemistry to thio-

ketones has produced some interesting reaction sequences from the nucleophilic hydrozirconation intermediate 1.12 Zirconocene enolates derived from zirconocene dichloride promote the erythroselective synthesis of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarbonyls.<sup>13</sup>

Collman's reagent, 14 Na<sub>2</sub>Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub>, also effectively forms organometallic intermediates which undergo selective transformations. McMurry<sup>15</sup> has studied the cyclocarbonylation reaction of Collman's reagent (dioxane adduct) with olefin tosylates and found the method effective, though limited in scope, for synthesizing five- and six-membered rings, including some spiro compounds.



Collman's reagent has also been used to prepare stable metal-fluorocarbon complexes (R<sub>F</sub>CO)<sub>2</sub>Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub> which undergo thermal decarbonylation to cis-(R<sub>F</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub>

The potassium analog of Collman's reagent, K<sub>2</sub>Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub>, has potential to be extremely useful in organic and organometallic synthesis. It can be isolated as an unsolvated, nonpyrophoric, pure solid,<sup>17</sup> and is now available from Aldrich. It has been used to prepare mixed-metal clusters under mild conditions.18

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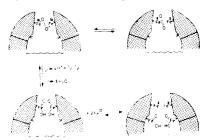
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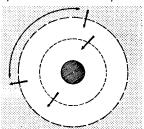
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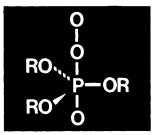
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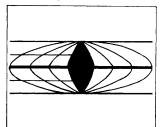
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