

# Reactivity of Molybdenum and Rhenium Hydroxo-Carbonyl Complexes toward Organic Electrophiles

Luciano Cuesta,<sup>[a]</sup> Darío C. Gerbino,<sup>[a]</sup> Eva Hevia,<sup>[a]</sup> Dolores Morales,<sup>[a]</sup>  
M. Elena Navarro Clemente,<sup>[a]</sup> Julio Pérez,<sup>\*[a]</sup> Lucía Riera,<sup>[a]</sup> Víctor Riera,<sup>[a]</sup>  
Daniel Miguel,<sup>[b]</sup> Ignacio del Río,<sup>[a]</sup> and Santiago García-Granda<sup>[c]</sup>

Dedicated to Professor José Vicente on the occasion of his 60th birthday

**Abstract:** The hydroxo compounds  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N}-\text{N})]$  ( $\text{N}-\text{N} = \text{bipy}$ , **2a**;  $\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy}$ , **2b**) were prepared in a biphasic  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  medium by reaction of  $[\text{Re}(\text{OTf})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N}-\text{N})]$  with  $\text{KOH}$ . In contrast, when anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was used, the binuclear hydroxo-bridged compound  $[\{\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})\}_2(\mu\text{-OH})]\text{OTf}$  (**3-OTf**) was obtained. Compound  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy})]$  (**2b**) reacted with phenyl acetate or vinyl acetate to afford  $[\text{Re}(\text{OAc})(\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy})]$  (**4**) and phenol or acetaldehyde, respectively. The reactions of  $[\text{Mo}(\text{OH})(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  (**1**), **2a**, and **2b** toward several unsaturated organic electrophiles were studied. The reaction of **1** with (*p*-tolyl)isocyanate afforded an adduct of *N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)-

urea and the carbonato-bridged compound  $[\{\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})\}_2(\mu\text{-}\eta^1(\text{O}),\eta^1(\text{O})\text{-CO}_3)]$  (**5**). In contrast, the reaction of **2a** with phenylisocyanate afforded  $[\text{Re}(\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{NHPh})(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})]$  (**6**); this results from formal  $\text{PhNCO}$  insertion into the  $\text{O}-\text{H}$  bond. On the other hand, compounds  $[\text{Mo}[\text{SC}(\text{O})\text{NH}(\textit{p}\text{-tolyl})](\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  (**7**),  $[\text{Re}[\text{SC}(\text{O})\text{NH}(\textit{p}\text{-tolyl})](\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy})]$  (**8a**), and  $[\text{Re}[\text{SC}(\text{O})\text{NH}(\textit{p}\text{-tolyl})](\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy})]$  (**8b**) were obtained by reaction of **1** or **2b** with the corresponding alkyl or aryl isothiocyanates. In

those cases,  $\text{RNCS}$  was inserted into the  $\text{M}-\text{O}$  bond. The reactions of **1**, **2a**, and **2b** with dimethylacetylenedicarboxylate (DMAD) gave the complexes  $[\text{Mo}[\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{-C}(\text{CO}_2\text{Me})\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{Me})\text{-O}](\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})(\text{phen})]$  (**9**) and  $[\text{Re}[\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{Me})\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{Me})\text{O}](\text{CO})_2(\text{N}-\text{N})]$  ( $\text{N}-\text{N} = \text{bipy}$ , **10a**;  $\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy}$ , **10b**). The molecules of these compounds contain five-membered metallacycles that are the result of coupling between the hydroxo ligand, DMAD, and one of the  $\text{CO}$  ligands. The new compounds were characterized by a combination of IR and NMR spectroscopy, and for  $[\{\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})\}_2(\mu\text{-OH})]\text{BF}_4$  (**3-BF<sub>4</sub>**), **4**, **5**, **6**, **7**, **8b**, **9**, and **10b**, also by means of single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

**Keywords:** carbonyl complexes • hydroxo complexes • insertion • molybdenum • rhenium

## Introduction

Strong  $\pi$ -donor hydroxo, alkoxo, or amido ligands are often found in transition-metal complexes of intermediate or high oxidation states.<sup>[1]</sup> The  $\rho\pi \rightarrow d\pi$  donation from OH, OR, or  $\text{NR}_2$  ligands can alleviate the electron deficiency of metal centers, and thus, stabilize unsaturated species such as intermediates along dissociative pathways.<sup>[2]</sup> At the opposite extreme of ligand-bonding properties, carbon monoxide, which is ubiquitous in organometallic chemistry, requires strong  $d\pi \rightarrow \rho\pi$  backbonding, and therefore, electron-rich metal centers. In spite of these disparate properties, the early belief that complexes which combine “soft” low-valent metal centers (such as classical carbonyl fragments) with “hard” OH, OR, or  $\text{NR}_2$  groups would be unstable due to “soft–hard” mismatch has been disproved by thermochemical studies.<sup>[3]</sup> Actually, the electron density released from

[a] L. Cuesta, D. C. Gerbino, Dr. E. Hevia, Dr. D. Morales, Dr. M. E. Navarro Clemente, Dr. J. Pérez, Dr. L. Riera, Prof. Dr. V. Riera, Dr. I. del Río  
Departamento de Química Orgánica e Inorgánica-IUQOEM  
Facultad de Química, Universidad de Oviedo-CSIC  
33071 Oviedo (Spain)

[b] Prof. Dr. D. Miguel  
Departamento de Química Inorgánica  
Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Valladolid  
47071 Valladolid (Spain)

[c] Dr. S. García-Granda  
Departamento de Química Física y Analítica  
Facultad de Química, Universidad de Oviedo  
33071 Oviedo (Spain)

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the  $\pi$ -donor ligand can be transferred to the  $\pi$ -acceptor ligand through metal d orbitals (push-pull mechanism).<sup>[4]</sup> Therefore, the coexistence of both types of ligands on the same metal center can result in a net stabilization.

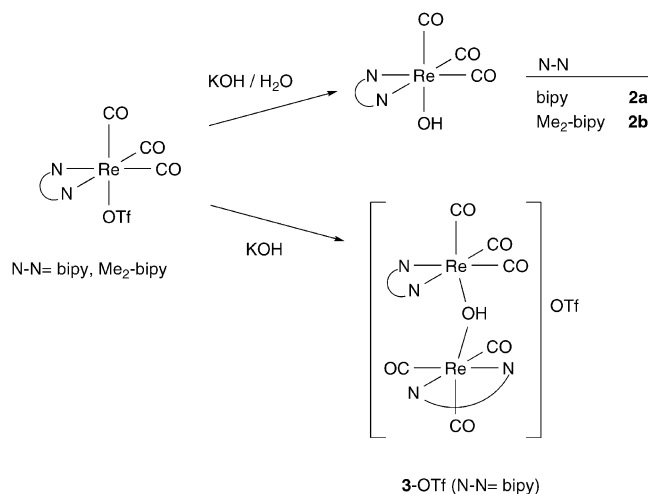
Organometallic compounds with terminal hydroxo ligands attract much interest because of their proposed participation in catalytic cycles<sup>[5]</sup> and their rich OH-centered reactivity,<sup>[6]</sup> which is dominated by the nucleophilic character of the hydroxo ligand. However, isolable examples are rare, a fact that is attributed to synthetic difficulties.<sup>[6]</sup> In truth, many hydroxo compounds have been adventitiously obtained when traces of water have been present in the reaction media.<sup>[7]</sup> On the other hand, hydroxo compounds show a strong tendency to form bi- or polynuclear species<sup>[7]</sup> in which the nucleophilicity of the OH group is decreased because it is bound to several metal atoms. This aggregation takes place when a lone electron pair of an OH group is donated into an empty coordination site of a second molecule. This can be avoided by using saturated complexes. Unfortunately, in some instances, the very  $\pi$ -donor character of the ligand may induce the creation of a coordination vacancy, as is the case in the *cis*-labilization of octahedral  $d^6$  carbonyl complexes.<sup>[8]</sup> The presence of ligands with high steric bulk can be used to prevent the formation of OH-bridged species, but it can also obstruct the access of reagents to the OH functionality.

Studies on the reactivity of organometallic hydroxo complexes are scarce.<sup>[5b,9]</sup> Bergman and Woerpel reported the first reaction of an acetylene with a well characterized hydroxo complex; namely, the insertion of dimethylacetylenedicarboxylate (DMAD) into the Ir–O bond of the saturated complex  $[\text{Ir}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)(\text{OH})\text{Ph}(\text{PMe}_3)]$ .<sup>[10]</sup> Esteruelas et al. found that the unsaturated compound  $[\text{OsH}(\text{OH})(\text{PiPr}_3)_2(\text{CO})]$  reacted with DMAD and other electrophiles to afford the products of formal insertion into the O–H bond.<sup>[9c]</sup> These reactivity patterns are similar to those recently reported for alkoxo or amido complexes of low-valent fragments of the Group 8–10 transition metals.<sup>[1h,6,7,11]</sup> The chemistry of hydroxo complexes of middle (Groups 6 and 7) transition-metal fragments remains virtually unexplored.

We have recently found that the saturated (18-electron) alkoxo complexes  $[\text{Mo}(\text{OR})(\eta^3\text{-allyl})(\text{CO})_2(\text{N-N})]$  and  $[\text{Re}(\text{OR})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N-N})]$  (N–N = 2,2'-bipyridine (bipy) or 1,10-phenanthroline) are easily prepared and undergo the insertion of several unsaturated organic electrophiles into the M–O bond.<sup>[12]</sup> The  $[\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-allyl})(\text{CO})_2(\text{N-N})]$  and  $[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{N-N})]$  fragments in these complexes are reluctant to undergo ligand dissociation processes, a feature that makes them suitable for use in studies into the reactivity of the remaining position. The saturated character and robustness of these fragments would also help to prevent aggregation. Moreover, the electronic (strongly electron-releasing) and steric (planarity and lack of bulky substituents) characteristics of the N–N chelates should contribute to a high reactivity, whereas the presence of the strong  $\pi$ -acceptor CO ligands makes the complexes thermally stable. These ideas, as well as the paucity of previous studies in this area prompted us to explore the reactivity of the hydroxo complexes  $[\text{Mo}(\text{OH})(\eta^3\text{-allyl})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  and  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N-N})]$ , the results of which we now wish to report.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Results and Discussion

**Synthesis of the hydroxo compounds:** We recently found that the hydroxo complex  $[\text{Mo}(\text{OH})(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me}_2)(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  (**1**) can be conveniently prepared by reaction of  $[\text{MoCl}(\eta^3\text{-allyl})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  with KOH in a biphasic  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  system.<sup>[14]</sup> The same conditions allowed the preparation of  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N-N})]$  (N–N = bipy, **2a**; 4,4'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine,  $\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy}$ , **2b**) complexes from triflate precursors.<sup>[15,16]</sup> In contrast, the binuclear hydroxo-bridged compound  $[\{\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})\}_2(\mu\text{-OH})\text{OTf}]$  (**3-OTf**) was obtained (Scheme 1) after 12 h when anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$

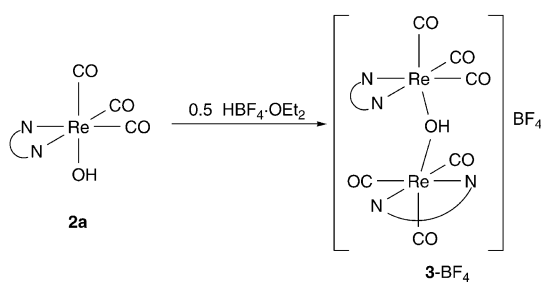


Scheme 1. The mononuclear hydroxo complexes **2a** and **2b** were obtained in the presence of water, whereas the binuclear complex **3-OTf** was formed in anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

was used.<sup>[17]</sup> Each kind of complex (mono- or bimetallic) is obtained as a single product. Therefore, the presence or absence of water in the reaction medium provides a clear-cut synthetic method towards each complex, and alleviates the need for any separation steps.<sup>[18]</sup>

The mononuclear complexes **2a** and **2b** display IR and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra that are comparable to those reported by Gibson et al.<sup>[16]</sup> In the solid state, the presence of the OH group in **3-OTf** gives rise to a weak, but sharp IR band at  $3645\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . In solution, the presence of the OH ligand is indicated by a broad, one-hydrogen signal at  $\delta = -1.62\text{ ppm}$  in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum. Since our attempts to grow single crystals of **3-OTf** suitable for X-ray diffraction were unsuccessful, we prepared the analogous tetrafluoroborate derivative by reaction of **2a** with a hemimolar amount of tetrafluoroboric acid in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (Scheme 2).<sup>[19]</sup> Crystals of **3-BF<sub>4</sub>**, which were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a saturated solution of the hydroxo compound in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , were employed for a structure determination by means of X-ray diffraction. A thermal ellipsoid (30% probability) plot of the cation is displayed in Figure 1.<sup>[20]</sup>

The cation consists of two  $[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})]$  fragments linked by a single hydroxo bridge. The two  $[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})]$  fragments are staggered in the solid-state structure, and therefore, are inequivalent. However, the NMR data for



Scheme 2. Protonation of the hydroxo complex **2a** with a hemimolar amount of tetrafluoroboric acid afforded the binuclear hydroxo complex **3-BF<sub>4</sub>**.

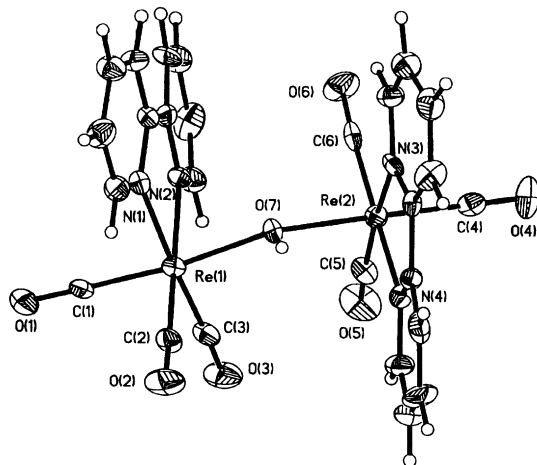


Figure 1. Thermal ellipsoid (30%) plot of the cation of **3**.

compound **3-BF<sub>4</sub>** in solution (see Experimental Section) indicates the presence of two apparent mirror planes that make the two metal fragments and the two halves of each bipy ligand equivalent. This is consistent with free rotation around the Re–O bonds. Such a process is expected to have a low kinetic barrier since  $\pi\pi \rightarrow d\pi$  donation is not possible for these 18-electron fragments, and steric hindrance for such rotation is not an issue. Failure of **3-OTf** or **3-BF<sub>4</sub>** to react with Lewis bases or unsaturated organic electrophiles that undergo reactions with mononuclear hydroxo complexes (see below), indicates that Re–O rapid-bond cleavage and subsequent reformation is not an alternative dynamic process which would also explain the aforementioned equivalence observed in the NMR spectra.

Hydroxo ligands can act as bridges between two or more metal centers. Indeed, most structurally characterized hydroxo complexes are polynuclear species.<sup>[7]</sup> However, binuclear complexes with a single OH ligand as the only bridge are quite rare. An example is the cationic complex  $[\{\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-methyllyl})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})\}_2(\mu\text{-OH})]^+$ .<sup>[14]</sup> Most hydroxo-bridged complexes possess either several OH bridges or additional bridging groups.<sup>[21–23]</sup> The Re–O–Re angle in **3-BF<sub>4</sub>** (140.5(7)°) is similar to that found in the above-mentioned molybdenum complex (145.3(4)°). As expected, these values are considerably higher than those found in complexes that have several bridges.<sup>[24]</sup>

The binuclear cation present in **3-BF<sub>4</sub>** can be considered as an adduct between the Lewis acidic 16-electron fragment  $[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})]^+$  and the Lewis basic (through a lone OH electron pair)  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})]$  (**2a**; Figure 2).

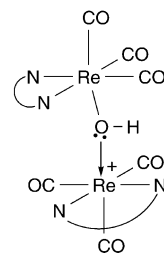


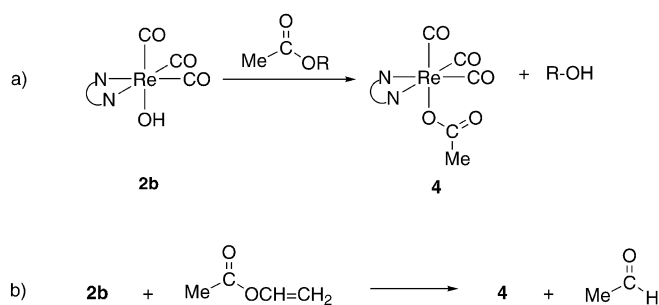
Figure 2.

We have recently isolated several adducts that contain the  $[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bipy})]^+$  fragment and weakly Lewis basic molecules such as ketones, ethers, methanol, and the like.<sup>[25]</sup> Unlike these complexes, **3** is not labile. For instance, it is unreactive towards  $\text{PMe}_3$  or pyridine. This is the case because the hydroxo-bridged complex **3** is stabilized with regard to the aforementioned labile species by delocalization of the Re–O bonds (i.e. it can be described by two equivalent resonance forms, one of which is represented in Figure 2).

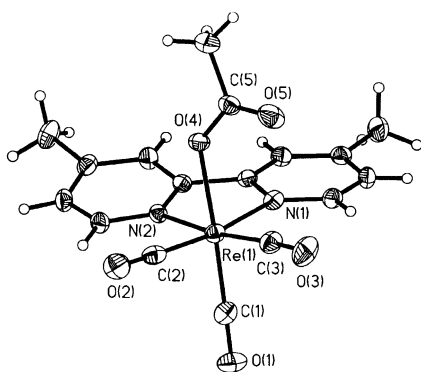
One of the earliest reports of a transition-metal complex that contains single hydroxo bridges is that of  $[\{\text{Fe}(\text{OEP})\}_2(\mu\text{-OH})]^+$  (OEP = octaethylporphyrinate). It is proposed that the  $\mu\text{-OH}$  group is stabilized because it is located in a hydrophobic environment between the two OEP planes.<sup>[26]</sup> A similar disposition of the OH bridge between the two eclipsed phenanthroline planes was found in  $[\{\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-methyllyl})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})\}_2(\mu\text{-OH})]^+$ ,<sup>[14]</sup> but in **3-BF<sub>4</sub>**, which has staggered bipy ligands, this feature is absent. The presence of an additional ring in the phenanthroline example could lead to a greater  $\pi$ -stacking stabilization, and may account for this difference.

### Reactivity of the hydroxo complexes $[\text{Mo}(\text{OH})(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$ and $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N-N})]$

**Reaction of 2b with acetates:** We sought to estimate the relative reactivity of  $[\text{Mo}(\text{OH})(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  (**1**) and  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{N-N})]$  (**2a** and **2b**), in comparison to previously known monometallic saturated hydroxo complexes, towards electrophiles. Bergman et al. reported that  $[\text{Ir}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)(\text{OH})\text{Ph}(\text{PMe}_3)]$  reacts with phenyl acetate to give a mixture of the phenoxide and acetate complexes after 36 h at 60 °C.<sup>[6]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR monitoring showed that the reaction of  $[\text{Re}(\text{OH})(\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy})]$  (**2b**) with PhOAc in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  afforded  $[\text{Re}(\text{OAc})(\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bipy})]$  (**4**) (see Scheme 3a) and phenol as the only products, and was complete in 20 h at room temperature. The analogous reaction with **1** was complete within 8 h; this indicates that the molybdenum complex has a higher reactivity. In a separate experiment, the reaction was conducted in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  on a preparative scale. Compound **4** was isolated in high yield, and was characterized by IR and NMR spectroscopy (see Experimental

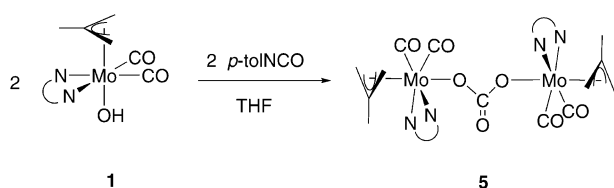
Scheme 3. Reaction of **2b** with acetates.

Section), as well as by X-ray diffraction (Figure 3). Complex **2b** also reacted with vinyl acetate to afford **4** and acetaldehyde (the stable tautomer of the expected vinyl alcohol)

Figure 3. Thermal ellipsoid (30%) plot of complex **4**.

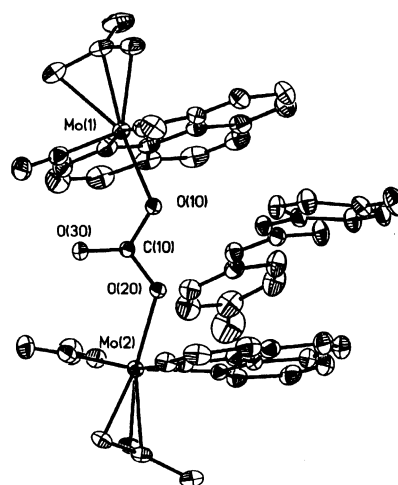
(Scheme 3b). These results encouraged us to study the reactivity of the molybdenum and rhenium hydroxo complexes **1**, **2a**, and **2b** with different organic electrophiles.

**Reactions with arylisocyanates:**<sup>[27]</sup> As indicated by the shift to higher wavenumber values of the two similarly intense  $\nu_{\text{CO}}$  IR bands, which is diagnostic of the persistence of a *cis*- $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2$  unit, complex  $[\text{Mo}(\text{OH})(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  (**1**) reacted instantly with a stoichiometric amount of (*p*-tolyl)NCO. The presence of several sets of phen signals in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the crude solid, which was obtained by evaporation of the solvent, indicated the presence of several products. The major compound was isolated by two successive crystallizations and was found to consist of an adduct of *N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)urea and the carbonato-bridged complex  $[\{\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})\}_2(\mu\text{-}\eta^1, \eta^1\text{-CO}_3)]$  (**5**) (see Scheme 4). An IR band at  $1516\text{ cm}^{-1}$

Scheme 4. Reaction of **1** with *p*-tolNCO afforded an adduct of the carbonate-bridged complex **5** and *N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)urea.

was assigned to the stretching mode of the carbonato bridge.<sup>[28]</sup>

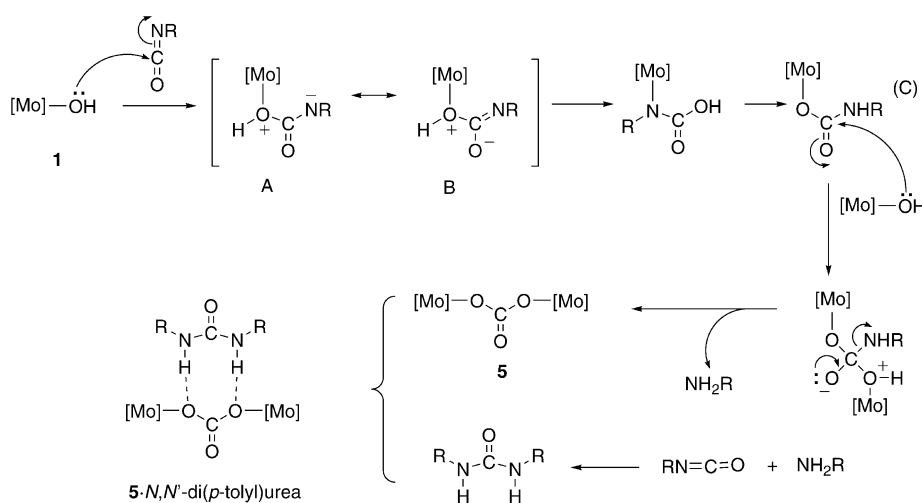
The solid-state structure of *5-N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)urea was determined by X-ray diffraction, and the results are displayed in Figure 4.<sup>[20]</sup>

Figure 4. Thermal ellipsoid plot at the 30% probability level for the adduct *5-N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)urea.

The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **5** exhibits only four phen signals and three methallyl signals. This indicates the existence of an apparent mirror plane that makes the two  $[\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  fragments and the two halves of each of these fragments equivalent. This symmetry is further supported by the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data. In view of the structure of **5** in the solid state (Figure 4), even if these mirror planes were absent, the apparent symmetry observed in the spectra could be attributed to free rotation around the Mo–O bonds. The Mo–O distances (2.126(3) and 2.157(3) Å) are consistent with single bonds;<sup>[29]</sup> this indicates that both molybdenum atoms have 18-electron configurations. In structure **5**, the  $[\text{Mo}(\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4\text{-Me-2})(\text{CO})_2(\text{phen})]$  fragments are unremarkable. The carbonato bridge is planar at carbon (sum of angles about C(10) =  $360^\circ$ ) and the C=O (terminal) distance (1.214(5) Å) is shorter than the two C–O (bridge) values (1.314(5) and 1.329(5) Å). The molecule of *N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)urea is oriented so that the nitrogen-bonded hydrogens point toward the open face of the bridging OCO group. The angle between the NCN (urea) and OCO (carbonato) planes is  $75^\circ$ . One would expect that a coplanar geometry would provide the best N–H $\cdots$ O bonding interactions. However, the actual arrangement combines the N–H $\cdots$ O hydrogen bond (the shortest distances are N(71)–O(20) = 3.098(5) and N(72)–O(10) = 2.939(5) Å) with aryl–aryl  $\pi$  stacking between *p*-tolyl and the phen rings (see Figure 3b in the Supporting Information).

Several carbonato-bridged binuclear transition-metal complexes are known, and most of them feature  $\eta^1(\text{O}), \eta^1(\text{O})$  bridges like that present in **5**.<sup>[30]</sup> In some instances, these species arise from reactions of hydroxo complexes with  $\text{CO}_2$ .<sup>[9d,30b,31]</sup> Initially, a hydrogenocarbonato (bicarbonato) complex is formed. Subsequent condensation between

this compound and the hydroxo complex affords the carbamate complex. The generation of a carbonate complex in a reaction with an isocyanate is, to the best of our knowledge, unprecedented. The formation of complex **5** can be rationalized according to the mechanism depicted in Scheme 5. Ini-

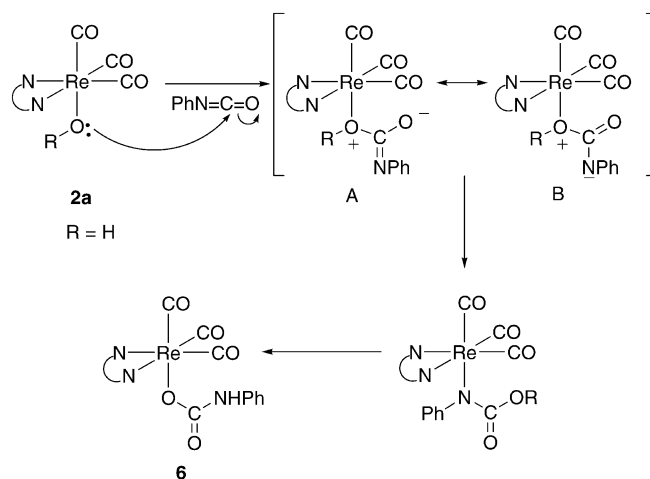


Scheme 5. Proposed mechanism for the formation of 5-*N,N'*-di(*p*-tolyl)urea.

tial attack by the undissociated OH group in compound **1** yields a zwitterionic intermediate. Oxygen is then displaced by nitrogen; this is driven by the higher donor character of the amido group with respect to the ether (see resonant form B in Scheme 5). The intermediary N-bound compound between A/B and C is proposed on the basis of the results found for reactions of RNCO with related Re–OMe complexes (vide infra).<sup>[12]</sup> The Mo–N product then undergoes a H<sup>+</sup> transfer from oxygen to the more basic nitrogen to give the O-bound carbamate product C (alternatively, a H<sup>+</sup> shift could transform A directly into C), as this favors coordination through the anionic carboxylic oxygen instead of the bulkier amino group. This mechanistic rationale is similar to the one recently proposed to explain the different products obtained from the reaction of rhenium amido complexes with isocyanates,<sup>[32]</sup> as well as products obtained from other reactions of hydroxo complexes (see below).<sup>[32,33]</sup> At this point, nucleophilic attack of the carbamate group in C by the hydroxo group in **1** affords complex **5** and free (*p*-tolyl)-amine. Complex **5** then reacts with free (*p*-tolyl)NCO to give the uric product.<sup>[34]</sup> Although we have attempted to exclude water from the reaction medium, hydrolysis of the proposed carbamate intermediate C cannot be ruled out as an alternative pathway for the formation of the carbonate product.<sup>[35]</sup>

Complex [Re(OH)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] (**2a**) reacts with phenylisocyanate to give the product from formal PhNCO insertion into the O–H bond, as shown in Scheme 6. The reaction, which is instantaneous at room temperature, is accompanied by a color change of the dichloromethane solution from orange to yellow, and an increase (as expected for a reaction with an electrophile) of some 10 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the ν<sub>CO</sub> IR bands. IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR monitoring showed the formation of a

single product, which was isolated by crystallization. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum showed signals for a symmetric bipyridine, which indicates the presence of a molecular mirror plane, as well as an aromatic multiplet that confirmed the incorporation of PhNCO, and a broad one-hydrogen signal at δ = 5.99 ppm that could be attributed to an NH or OH group. The low solubility of the product precluded the acquisition of a significant <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum. Since the available data did not allow a structural assignment, the solid-state structure was determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. The results are shown in Figure 5<sup>[20]</sup> and indicate a [Re(OC(O)NHPH)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] (**6**) formulation. The molecule displays a pseudo-octahedral geometry typical of [Re-X(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N–N)] complexes, and consists of a [Re(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] fragment bonded to one of the



Scheme 6. Reaction of **2a** with PhNCO afforded complex **6**, which contains a monodentate *N*-phenylcarbamato ligand.

oxygen atoms of an *N*-phenylcarbamato ligand. The Re–O bond (2.110(7) Å) is comparable to that found by Gibson et al. in the complex [Re(OH)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)]·2.5 H<sub>2</sub>O (2.132(3) Å).<sup>[16]</sup> A lengthening of the Re–O distance in comparison with the hydroxo precursor would be expected for **6** as a result of the carbamate ligand being a poorer donor than the hydroxo ligand (as indicated by the higher ν<sub>CO</sub> values for the latter). Indeed, this has been the trend found for insertion of other organic electrophiles into Re–O or Re–N bonds in related compounds.<sup>[12,32,33]</sup> The fact that this lengthening of the Re–O bond is not observed for **6** with respect to the hydroxo complex can be attributed to hydrogen-bond interactions of the OH ligand with water molecules in the latter complex; this can weaken the Re–OH

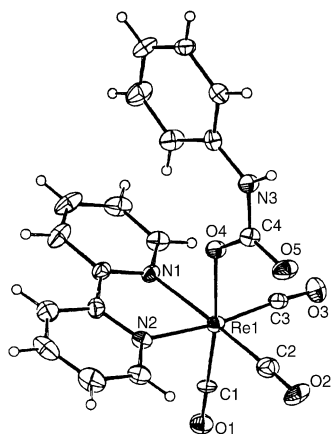


Figure 5. Thermal ellipsoid (30% probability level) plot of **6**.

bond and increase the Re–OH distance.<sup>[36]</sup> Thus, the Re–O distance in [Re(OMe)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] is 2.081(5) Å.<sup>[37]</sup> A similar or perhaps even shorter distance could be expected for an Re–OH bond in the absence of such interactions given the smaller size of the OH group in comparison to an OMe group.<sup>[38]</sup> The distances for the C(4)–O(5) (1.246(9) Å) and C(4)–N(3) (1.400(10) Å) bonds are consistent with double and single bonds, respectively.<sup>[39]</sup> Moreover, the sum of the angles around C(4) is 360°; this indicates an sp<sup>2</sup> hybridization, and that the metrical data support the formulation shown in Scheme 6. Scheme 6 is a mechanistic proposal that allows us to rationalize not only the results presented here, but also previous related ones, such as reactions of isocyanates with Re–OMe compounds. However, simpler alternatives do exist. For instance, H<sup>+</sup> transposition from O to N would explain the direct transformation of A into B.

The reaction of a transition-metal hydroxo complex with an isocyanate has, to the best of our knowledge, only recently been reported by Esteruelas et al. The unsaturated, five-coordinate osmium hydroxo complex [OsH(OH)(CO)(PiPr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] reacted with PhNCO to give the product from formal isocyanate insertion into the O–H bond.<sup>[9c]</sup> A major difference with respect to complex **5** is that the osmium product features a bidentate carbamato ligand. The formation of a monodentate carbamato linkage in our rhenium complex is enforced by the saturated nature of the rhenium fragment, and is also the reason why reactions of isocyanates, isothiocyanates, and carbon disulfide with alkoxo and amido complexes leads to the formation of monodentate ligands.<sup>[12,32,33,40]</sup>

**Reactions with isothiocyanates:** Complex **1** reacts with (*p*-tolyl)NCS, while **2b** reacts with (*p*-tolyl)NCS and EtNCS to afford, after 15 minutes at room temperature, [Mo[SC(O)NH(*p*-tolyl)](η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] (**7**), [Re[SC(O)NH(*p*-tolyl)](CO)<sub>3</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)] (**8a**), and [Re[SC(O)NHET](CO)<sub>3</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)] (**8b**), respectively. Both alkyl and aryl isothiocyanates react with molybdenum and rhenium hydroxo complexes to afford products similar to the ones described here, but for the sake of brevity we will limit our discussion to representative examples that could be fully characterized, and their structures determined by

means of single crystal X-ray diffraction. Complexes **7**, **8a**, and **8b** were characterized by IR, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (for **8b**) spectroscopy, and single crystal X-ray diffraction was conducted on **7** and **8b** (Figure 6). The spectroscopic

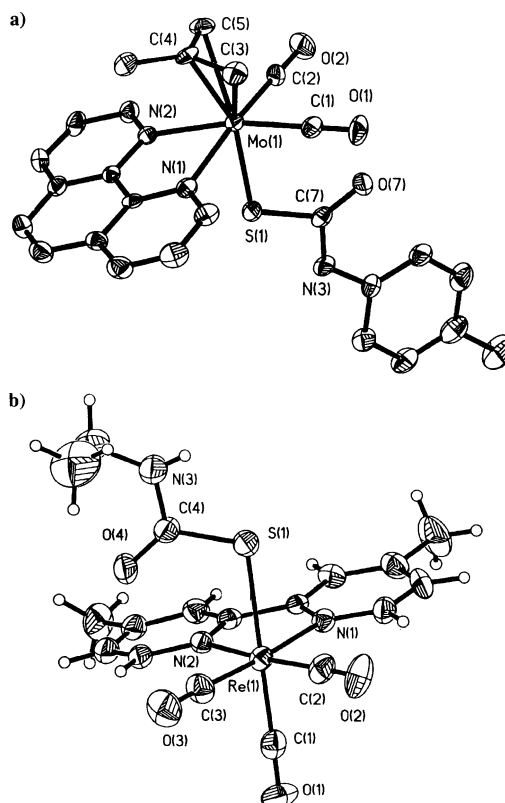
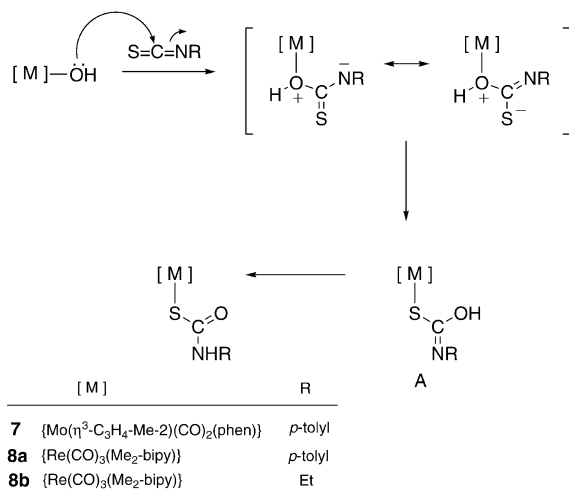


Figure 6. Thermal ellipsoid (30%) plots showing the molecular structures of the S-bound thiocarbamato complexes **7** (a) and **8b** (b).

data include signals for the *p*-tolyl or ethyl group and, for complex **8**, a weak signal in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum at  $\delta = 175.35$  ppm that can be attributed to the central carbon of the thiocarbamato ligand (see below). The N-bonded hydrogen atoms occur as broad signals at  $\delta = 7.43$  ppm (**7**) and  $\delta = 5.90$  ppm (**8a**) in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra. For complex **8b** this signal is not observed in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum obtained at room temperature, but was visible at  $-40^\circ\text{C}$  as a broad singlet at  $\delta = 5.50$  ppm. The solid-state structures of each molecule are presented in Figure 6.<sup>[20]</sup>

In both structures, it can be seen that a molecule of RNCS has been formally inserted into the M–O bond, and that the resultant *N*-alkyl or *N*-aryl thiocarbamate ligand is coordinated through the sulfur atom to the [Mo(η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] (**7**) or [Re(CO)<sub>3</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)] (**8b**) fragments. For complex **7**, a discussion of bond lengths is precluded because of the low accuracy of the data. The Re–S (2.496(2) Å) distance in **8b** is similar to that found in [Re[SC(NEt)OMe](CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] (2.5131(14) Å). The latter complex results from the insertion of RNCS into the Re–O bond of the methoxo complex [Re(OMe)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)].<sup>[12]</sup> The C(4)–S(1) (1.756(8) Å), C(4)–N(3) (1.339(11) Å) (consistent with single bonds),<sup>[39]</sup> and C(4)–O(4) (1.210(9) Å) (double bond)<sup>[39]</sup> distances, as well as the sum of the angles

around C(4) (359.9°) support the formulation of the thiocarbamate ligand as depicted in Scheme 7. Moreover, the formation of complexes **7**, **8a**, and **8b** is rationalized in a simi-



Scheme 7. Proposed mechanism for the formation of **7**, **8a**, and **8b** from hydroxo compounds **1**, **2a**, and **2b**, respectively, upon reaction with isothiocyanates.

lar way as for **6** (see above). However, here the putative zwitterionic intermediate would evolve through displacement of oxygen by sulfur (instead of nitrogen), since this softer atom should form the more stable bond to the organometallic fragment. Subsequently, H<sup>+</sup> migration from oxygen to the more basic nitrogen atom would afford the observed products. A stable complex that was isostructural with intermediate A was obtained in the reactions of [Mo(OMe)( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] and [Re(OMe)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] with PhNCS and EtNCS, respectively.<sup>[12]</sup> In those reactions, the presence of a methyl group in place of hydrogen precluded the final rearrangement.

#### Reactions with dimethylacetylenedicarboxylate (DMAD):

The complexes [Mo(OH)( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] (**1**) and [Re(OH)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N-N)] (**2a**, N-N = bipy; **2b**, N-N = Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy) react with DMAD. The reactions take place upon mixing and are accompanied by major changes in the IR spectra. Thus, the two bands for **1** at 1929 and 1843 cm<sup>-1</sup> were substituted by a single, strong absorption at 1947 cm<sup>-1</sup> in product **9**. A single IR  $\nu_{\text{CO}}$  band in the carbonyl ligand region is consistent with the existence of either a *trans*-dicarbonyl or a monocarbonyl fragment, both of which are very rare for pseudo-octahedral molybdenum-allyl complexes.<sup>[41]</sup> Analogously, for the rhenium complexes, the *fac*-Re(CO)<sub>3</sub> IR patterns were replaced by two sets of bands of similar intensity and width; this is diagnostic of the *cis*-dicarbonyl moieties in **10a** and **10b**. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the molybdenum and rhenium products displayed two three-hydrogen singlets, which correspond to two different methoxycarbonyl groups, and the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (see Experimental Section) also indicated that these molecules were not symmetri-

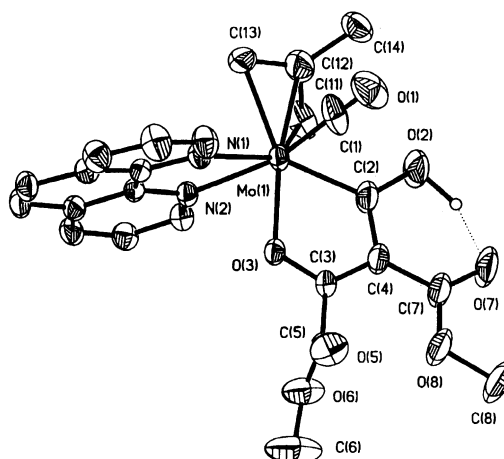


Figure 7. Thermal ellipsoid (30%) plot of **9**.

cal. The structures of [Mo[C(OH)C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)C(CO<sub>2</sub>-Me)O]( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] (**9**; Figure 7) and [Re[C(OH)C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)O](CO)<sub>3</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)] (**10b**; Figure 8) were determined by X-ray diffraction.<sup>[20]</sup>

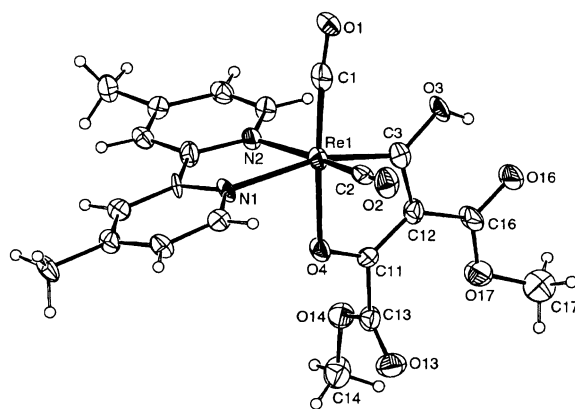
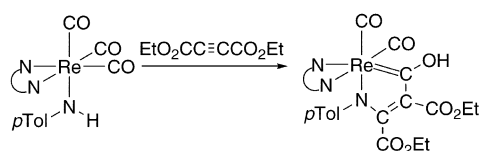


Figure 8. Thermal ellipsoid (30%) plot of **10b**.

The molecules consist of [Mo( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)(phen)] (**9**) and *cis*-[Re(CO)<sub>2</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)] (**10b**) fragments, which are linked to five-membered M-C(OH)-C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)-C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)-O metallacycles that result from the coupling of the hydroxo ligand, DMAD, and one of the CO ligands.

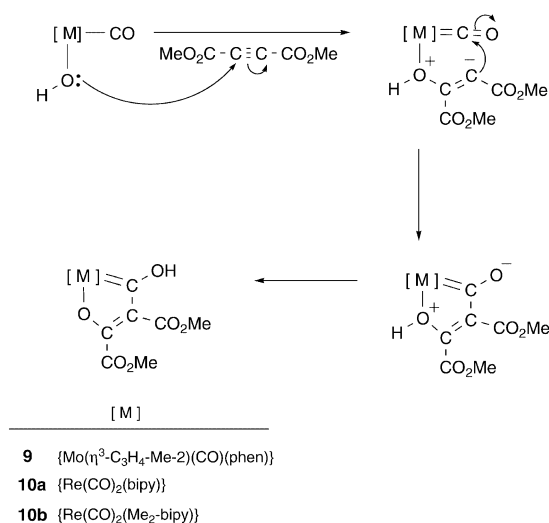
The relatively short Mo-C(2) and Re-C(3) distances (2.054(7) and 2.032(15) Å, respectively), together with the <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shift for C(2) in **9** ( $\delta$  = 226.95 ppm) and C(3) in **10b** ( $\delta$  = 278.61 ppm) indicate that one end of the metallacycle contains a hydroxycarbene group. A compound closely related to **10b** has recently been obtained by us from the reaction of diethylacetylenedicarboxylate with the amido complex [Re(NH*p*Tol)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] (Scheme 8).<sup>[33]</sup> In view of the crystal structures, it is clear that the NMR spec-



Scheme 8. Reaction of the rhenium amido complex with DMAD afforded a metallacycle.

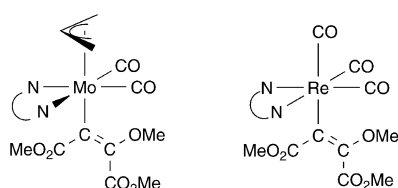
tra of the products of DMAD insertion can be attributed to solution structures, as well as to those found in the solid state.

A mechanistic rationale that explains the formation of **9**, **10a**, and **10b** is shown in Scheme 9, and is analogous to the



Scheme 9. Reaction of the hydroxo complexes **1**, **2a**, and **2b** with DMAD afforded the new complexes **9**, **10a**, and **10b**, respectively. The metallacycles were the result of coupling between the hydroxo ligand, DMAD, and one of the CO ligands.

one proposed for the reaction with the amido complex. After initial nucleophilic attack of one of the acetylenic carbons of DMAD by the hydroxo (or amido) group, the carbanionic end of the resultant zwitterion attacks a proximal CO ligand. Subsequent H<sup>+</sup> migration from the positively-charged oxygen (or nitrogen) bonded to molybdenum or



Scheme 10. The *Z*-alkenyl complexes of Mo and Re were obtained by reaction of the methoxo complexes with DMAD.

rhenium to the negatively charged oxygen generates the observed metallacyclic hydroxycarbene.

These results contrast with those obtained for the reaction of DMAD with the methoxo complexes [Mo(OMe)( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] and [Re(OMe)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)]. These reactions afford the *Z*-alkenyl complexes shown in Scheme 10 as a result of the displacement of the metal-bonded oxygen by the carbanionic end of a zwitterionic intermediate similar to the one included in Scheme 9.<sup>[12]</sup> The similar formation of an alkenyl complex as a result of formal DMAD insertion into an Ir–OH bond has also been reported by Bergman.<sup>[10]</sup> These differences suggest that H<sup>+</sup> migration to the carbonyl oxygen makes an important contribution to the formation of the metallacycles observed by us.<sup>[42]</sup> Other than this, the only reaction of a hydroxo complex with an acetylene of which we are aware is that of DMAD with the complex [Os(H)(OH)(PiPr<sub>3</sub>)(CO)]. This reaction affords the product from formal insertion of DMAD into the O–H bond.<sup>[9c]</sup> A major difference with the complexes employed in the present study is that the osmium hydroxo complex is pentacoordinate; this allows coordination of Lewis bases, and thus, a mechanism that involves initial coordination of DMAD to Os followed by an intramolecular insertion. With regard to the reactions that afford metallacycles **9**, **10a**, and **10b**, the formation of similar metallacycles with either Mo<sup>II</sup> or Re<sup>II</sup> occurs because two carbonyl ligands are adjacent to the OH group in each pseudo-octahedral precursor. Remarkably, [Mo( $\eta^3$ -allyl)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(N–N)] and [Re(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N–N)] fragments in pseudo-octahedral complexes like the ones dealt with in the present study have been found to be rather inert. Thus, the carbonyl ligands have never been found to be the target of nucleophilic attack, even when strong nucleophiles were employed as reagents.<sup>[12,14,43]</sup>

## Conclusion

The reaction of [Re(OTf)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N–N)] (**1a** and **1b**) with KOH leads to [Re(OH)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N–N)] (**2a** or **2b**) and {[Re(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)]<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -OH)OTf} (**3-OTf**). Which product is formed depends upon the presence or absence of water in the reaction medium.

The reactivity of complexes [Mo(OH)( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)] (**1**) and [Re(OH)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N–N)] (**2a** and **2b**) toward organic electrophiles is comparable to that of the Group 8–10 metal-hydroxo complexes.<sup>[5b,9,10]</sup> Unsaturated electrophiles afford the products from formal insertion into the M–O or O–H bonds. The formation of these products is rationalized by means of mechanistic schemes that are similar to those proposed in previous studies of related alkoxo and amido complexes.<sup>[12b,40]</sup>

## Experimental Section

**General procedures:** All manipulations were carried out under nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were distilled from Na (hexanes), Na/benzophenone (tetrahydrofuran), or CaH<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>OH,



CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH). CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub> were dried over 4 Å molecular sieves and CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was stored in the dark over Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. Elemental analyses were obtained by using a Perkin-Elmer 240-B microanalyzer. The IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer FT 1720-X spectrophotometer, while the <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>19</sup>F, and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC-200, AC-300, or DPX-300 spectrometer.

The complexes [Mo(η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(OH)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)]<sup>[14]</sup> and [Re(OTf)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(N-N)]<sup>[44]</sup> were synthesized according to literature procedures.

**Crystal structure determination for compounds 4, 5, 7, 8b, and 9:** Raw frame data were integrated with the SAINT<sup>[45]</sup> program. The structures were solved by direct methods with SHELXTL<sup>[46]</sup>. A semi-empirical absorption correction was applied with the SADABS program.<sup>[47]</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, while hydrogen atoms were set in calculated positions and refined as riding atoms with a common thermal parameter. All calculations and graphics were made with SHELXTL.

**Crystal structure determination for 6 and 10b:** Crystal structures were solved by Patterson methods using the Dirdif program.<sup>[48]</sup> Anisotropic least-squares refinement was carried out with SHELXL-97.<sup>[49]</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were anisotropically refined, while hydrogen atoms were geometrically placed and refined as riding on their parent atoms. Empirical absorption corrections were applied by using XABS2.<sup>[50]</sup> Geometrical calculations were made with PARST,<sup>[51]</sup> and the crystallographic plots were made with PLATON.<sup>[52]</sup>

Crystallographic data for compounds 4, 5, 6, 7, 8b, 9, and 10b are shown in Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3. CCDC-219665 (3-BF<sub>4</sub>), CCDC-219666 (4), CCDC-219667 (5), CCDC-219668 (6), CCDC-219669 (7), CCDC-219670 (8b), CCDC-219671 (9), and CCDC-219672 (10b) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html) (or

Table 2. Crystal data for 6, 7, and 8b.

	6	7	8b
formula	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Re	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>22</sub> MoN <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S·CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ReS
Fw	562.54	637.39	558.61
Crystal system	monoclinic	triclinic	orthorhombic
space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
<i>a</i> [Å]	8.7411(3)	12.693(2)	10.101(3)
<i>b</i> [Å]	14.5576(4)	14.370(3)	10.326(3)
<i>c</i> [Å]	15.1477(4)	16.305(3)	19.595(6)
$\alpha$ [°]	90	85.861(4)	90
$\beta$ [°]	102.471(2)	75.768(3)	90
$\gamma$ [°]	90	77.325(3)	90
<i>V</i> [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	1882.06(10)	2812.0(9)	2043.8(10)
<i>Z</i>	4	4	4
<i>T</i> [K]	120(2)	299(2)	293(2)
$\rho_{\text{calcd}}$ [g cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	1.985	1.506	1.815
<i>F</i> (000)	1080	1292	1080
$\lambda$ (MoK $\alpha$ ) [Å]	1.54180	0.71073	0.71073
crystal size [mm]	0.28 × 0.13 × 0.08	0.10 × 0.13 × 0.24	0.10 × 0.14 × 0.28
$\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	12.974	0.764	6.075
scan range [°]	4.26 ≤ $\theta$ ≤ 68.30	1.29 ≤ $\theta$ ≤ 23.31	2.08 ≤ $\theta$ ≤ 23.34
reflections measured	19225	12840	9224
independent reflections	3446	8002	2958
data/restraints/parameters	3446/1/265	8002/0/665	2958/0/251
goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.251	1.004	1.003
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> / <i>R</i> <sub>w2</sub>	0.0485/0.1770	0.0580/0.1214	0.0264/0.0601
[ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	0.0523/0.2004	0.1023/0.1347	0.0288/0.0610
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> / <i>R</i> <sub>w2</sub> (all data)			

Table 1. Crystal data for 3-BF<sub>4</sub>, 4, and 5.

	3-BF <sub>4</sub>	4	5
formula	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>17</sub> BF <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Re <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Re	C <sub>52</sub> H <sub>44</sub> Mo <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>8</sub> ·2CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
Fw	956.65	513.51	1242.66
crystal system	triclinic	orthorhombic	triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	<i>Pbca</i>	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> [Å]	8.6051(18)	8.4658(11)	12.390(2)
<i>b</i> [Å]	10.694(2)	14.1972(19)	15.144(3)
<i>c</i> [Å]	17.201(4)	28.909(4)	15.957(3)
$\alpha$ [°]	103.892(4)	90	73.848(4)
$\beta$ [°]	92.836(4)	90	84.432(4)
$\gamma$ [°]	108.477(4)	90	70.793(4)
<i>V</i> [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	1443.7(5)	3474.5(8)	2715.7(9)
<i>Z</i>	2	8	2
<i>T</i> [K]	293(2)	299(2)	299(2)
$\rho_{\text{calcd}}$ [g cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	2.201	1.963	1.520
<i>F</i> (000)	896	1968	1260
$\lambda$ (MoK $\alpha$ ) [Å]	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073
crystal size [mm]	0.08 × 0.12 × 0.21	0.06 × 0.10 × 0.27	0.08 × 0.24 × 0.25
$\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	8.454	7.024	0.717
scan range [°]	1.23 ≤ $\theta$ ≤ 23.30	1.41 ≤ $\theta$ ≤ 23.37	1.33 ≤ $\theta$ ≤ 23.28
reflections measured	6334	14670	12261
independent reflections	4065	2513	7736
data/restraints/parameters	4065/0/401	2513/0/230	7736/0/672
goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.096	1.069	1.005
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> / <i>R</i> <sub>w2</sub>	0.0562/0.1618	0.0270/0.0729	0.0456/0.1206
[ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	0.0666/0.1686	0.0410/0.0775	0.0643/0.1311
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> / <i>R</i> <sub>w2</sub> (all data)			

from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12, Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; or [deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto:deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk)).

**Preparation of [(Re(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy))<sub>2</sub>(μ-OH)]OTf (3-OTf):** KOH (0.240 g, 0.435 mmol) was added to a solution of [Re(OTf)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)] (0.200 g, 0.347 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL), and the mixture was allowed to stir for 12 h at room temperature. The yellow solution was filtered by cannula and concentrated under vacuum to a volume of 5 mL. The residue was layered with hexane (20 mL) and cooled to -20 °C to afford yellow crystals of 3-OTf; yield: 0.031 g, 71%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 8.91 (m, 4H; bipy), 8.22 (m, 8H; bipy), 7.58 (m, 4H; bipy), -1.64 ppm (brs, 1H; OH); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2018 vs, 1910s, 1889s cm<sup>-1</sup> (CO); IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3645 br cm<sup>-1</sup> (OH); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Re<sub>2</sub>S: C 31.82, H 1.68, N 5.49; found: C 31.86, H 1.62, N 5.14.

**Independent preparation of [(Re(CO)<sub>3</sub>(bipy))<sub>2</sub>(μ-OH)]BF<sub>4</sub> (3-BF<sub>4</sub>):** HBF<sub>4</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> (11 μL, 0.075 mmol) was added to a solution of 2a (0.070 g, 0.151 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) at -78 °C, and the mixture was allowed to reach room temperature. The color of the solution changed from orange to yellow. The solution was concentrated under vacuum to a volume of 5 mL, and the residue was layered with hexane (20 mL) and cooled to -20 °C to afford yellow crystals of 3-BF<sub>4</sub>. One crystal was used for structure determination by X-ray diffraction; yield: 0.060 g, 84%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 8.91 (m, 4H; bipy), 8.22 (m, 8H; bipy), 7.58 (m, 4H; bipy), -1.64 ppm (brs, 1H; OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  = 199.33 (2CO), 193.09 (CO), 157.68, 155.73, 142.28, 130.12, 126.17 ppm (bipy); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2018 vs, 1910s, 1889s cm<sup>-1</sup> (CO); IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3645 br cm<sup>-1</sup> (OH); elemental analysis calcd (%) for

Table 3. Crystal data for **9** and **10b**.

	<b>9</b>	<b>10b</b>
formula	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>22</sub> MoN <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ·0.5 CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> Re·1.5 CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
Fw	582.43	739.96
crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
space group	C2/c	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c
a [Å]	26.064(4)	11.5690(6)
b [Å]	16.990(3)	11.0920(6)
c [Å]	13.420(2)	20.8256(6)
α [°]	90	90
β [°]	120.787(3)	94.307(3)
γ [°]	90	90
V [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	5105.2(15)	2664.9(2)
Z	8	4
T [K]	2938(2)	120(2)
ρ <sub>calcd</sub> [g cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	1.516	1.844
F(000)	2348	1440
λ(MoKα) [Å]	0.71073	1.54180
crystal size [mm]	0.12 × 0.21 × 0.33	0.25 × 0.12 × 0.02
μ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.564	12.118
scan range [°]	1.82 ≤ θ ≤ 23.26	3.83 ≤ θ ≤ 68.70
reflections measured	11 199	37 972
independent reflections	3669	4865
data/restraints/parameters	3669/0/347	4865/17/336
goodness-of-fit on I <sup>2</sup>	1.041	0.872
R <sub>1</sub> /R <sub>w2</sub> [I > 2σ(I)]	0.0512/0.1319	0.0586/0.1404
R <sub>1</sub> /R <sub>w2</sub> (all data)	0.0686/0.1495	0.1035/0.1646

C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BF<sub>4</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Re<sub>2</sub>: C 32.64, H 1.79, N 5.85; found: C 32.58, H 1.71, N 5.90.

**Reaction of 2b with phenyl acetate:** A 5 mm NMR tube was charged with a solution of **2b** (0.020 g, 0.042 mmol) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL) and was then capped with a rubber septum. PhOAc (6.5 μL, 0.042 mmol) was injected, and the reaction was monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. After 20 h at room temperature, the color of the solution changed from orange to yellow and the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum showed signals for phenol [δ = 7.25 (m, 2H; Ph), 6.90 (m, 1H; Ph), 6.45 (m, 2H; Ph), 5.25 ppm (brs, 1H; OH)] and complex [Re(OAc)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy)] (**4**) (see below).

This reaction was also carried out on a preparative scale, in which 0.080 g of **2b** (0.169 mmol) and a stoichiometric amount of PhOAc (22 μL, 0.169 mmol) was employed. Slow diffusion of hexane into a concentrated solution of **4** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> afforded yellow crystals, one of which was suitable for an X-ray experiment; yield: 0.093 g, 94%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 8.95 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 8.03 (s, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 7.37 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 2.59 (s, 6H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 1.54 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 199.37 (2CO), 195.36 (CO), 176.55 (CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>), 155.78, 153.51, 152.16, 127.89, 123.87 (Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 23.36 (CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>), 21.84 ppm (Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν̄ = 2017 vs, 1913 s, 1887 s (CO), 1620 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Re: C 39.76, H 2.94, N 5.45; found: C 39.74, H 2.99, N 5.60.

**Reaction of 1 with phenyl acetate:** PhOAc (5 μL, 0.039 mmol) was added to a solution of **1** (0.016 g, 0.039 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL), and the reaction was monitored by IR spectroscopy. After 8 h, the IR spectrum showed the disappearance of the bands for **1** (IR ν̄ = 1934 and 1844 cm<sup>-1</sup>), while two new bands were assigned to the acetate complex [Mo(OAc)(η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-Me-2)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(phen)]. The solution was concentrated in vacuo and upon addition of hexane, a red-brown solid precipitated. This was washed with hexane and dried under vacuum; yield: 0.016 g, 92%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 9.17 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 2H; H<sub>2,9</sub>), 8.50 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H; H<sub>4,7</sub>), 7.90 (s, 2H; H<sub>5,6</sub>), 7.71 (m, 2H; H<sub>3,8</sub>), 2.98 (s, 2H; H<sub>1</sub>), 1.46 (s, 2H; H<sub>2</sub>), 1.31 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>), 0.78 ppm (s, 3H; η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)-2); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν̄ = 1948 vs, 1874 s cm<sup>-1</sup>; elemental analysis

calcd (%) for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>MoN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C 53.82, H 3.92, N 6.27; found: C 53.58, H 4.30, N 6.47.

**Reaction of 2b with vinyl acetate:** Complex **2b** (0.020 g, 0.042 mmol) was dissolved in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL) in a 5 mm NMR tube capped with a rubber septum. Vinyl acetate (4 μL, 0.043 mmol) was injected and the reaction was monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. After 12 h at room temperature, the color of the solution changed from orange to yellow and the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum showed signals for acetaldehyde [9.76 (s, 1H; CH<sub>3</sub>CHO), 2.16 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>CHO)] and complex **4**.

**Reaction of 1 with (p-tolyl)NCO:** (p-tolyl)NCO (22 μL, 0.170 mmol) was added to a solution of **1** (0.070 g, 0.168 mmol) in THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred for 15 min and was then evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through diatomaceous earth, and concentrated in vacuo to 5 mL. Upon addition of hexane (20 mL), a red microcrystalline solid precipitated. This was washed with hexane (3 × 10 mL) and dried under vacuum. The solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) and layered with diethyl ether (20 mL). After three days at room temperature, red crystals of 5-N,N'-di(p-tolyl)urea were obtained, one of which was used for X-ray analysis; yield: 0.075 g, 71%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 9.18 (dd, J = 5.0 and 1.3 Hz, 4H; H<sub>2,9</sub>), 8.52 (dd, J = 8.3 Hz, 4H; H<sub>4,7</sub>), 7.99 (s, 4H; H<sub>5,6</sub>), 7.85 (dd, 4H; H<sub>3,8</sub>), 7.06, 7.03, 6.95, 6.57 (AB quartet, 8H; p-tol), 2.98 (s, 4H; H<sub>1</sub>), 2.38 (s, 6H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.46 (s, 4H; H<sub>a</sub>), 0.78 ppm (s, 6H; η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)-2); IR (THF): ν̄ = 1953 vs, 1874 s, 1516 m cm<sup>-1</sup>; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>44</sub>Mo<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub>·2 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C 52.10, H 4.04, N 6.75; found: C 52.39, H 4.26, N 7.12.

**Reaction of 2a with PhNCO:** PhNCO (11 μL, 0.104 mmol) was added to a solution of **2a** (0.050 g, 0.104 mmol) in THF (20 mL), and the color of the solution changed instantly from orange to yellow. The solvent was removed under vacuum and the yellow solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL). Slow diffusion of diethyl ether into this solution at room temperature afforded orange crystals of **6**, one of which was employed for an X-ray structure determination; yield: 0.052 g, 90%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 9.11 (m, 2H; bipy), 8.12 (m, 4H; bipy), 7.57 (m, 2H; bipy), 6.96 (m, 5H; Ph), 6.69 ppm (brs, 1H; NH); IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν̄ = 2019 vs, 1917 s, 1889 s cm<sup>-1</sup> (CO); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Re: C 42.70, H 2.50, N 7.46; found: C 42.76, H 2.61, N 7.40.

**Reaction of 1 with (p-tolyl)NCS:** (p-tolyl)NCS (19 μL, 0.150 mmol) was added to a solution of **1** (0.060 g, 0.150 mmol) in THF (15 mL), and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. The red solution was concentrated in vacuo, layered with hexane (15 mL), and stored at -20 °C to afford red crystals of **7**, one of which was used for X-ray analysis; yield: 0.070 g, 73%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 9.05 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 2H; H<sub>2,9</sub>), 8.47 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H; H<sub>4,7</sub>), 7.95 (s, 2H; H<sub>5,6</sub>), 7.83 (m, 2H; H<sub>3,8</sub>), 7.43 (brs, 1H; NH), 7.22, 7.18, 7.01, 6.97 (AB quartet, 4H; p-tol), 2.98 (s, 2H; H<sub>a</sub>), 2.23 (s, 3H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.64 (s, 2H; H<sub>a</sub>), 0.61 ppm (s, 3H; η<sup>3</sup>-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)-2); IR (THF): ν̄ = 1956 vs, 1885 s cm<sup>-1</sup> (CO); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>MoN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C 50.79, H 3.94, N 6.58; found: C 50.66, H 4.01, N 6.66.

**Reaction of 2b with (p-tolyl)NCS:** (p-tolyl)NCS (8 μL, 0.054 mmol) was added to a solution of **2b** (0.025 g, 0.053 mmol) in THF (10 mL). The resultant yellow solution was stirred for 15 min, the solvent was then removed in vacuo, and the residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL). Upon addition of hexane (10 mL), a yellow microcrystalline solid precipitated. This was washed with hexane and dried under vacuum; yield: 0.020 g, 61%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 8.91 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 7.99 (s, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 7.30 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 5.90 (brs, 1H; NH), 2.55 (s, 6H; CH<sub>3</sub> and Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 2.23 ppm (s, 3H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>); IR (THF): ν̄ = 2017 vs, 1916 s, 1892 s cm<sup>-1</sup> (CO); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>ReS: C 44.50, H 3.24, N 6.77; found: C 44.39, H 3.13, N 6.95.

**Reaction of 2b with EtNCS:** EtNCS (15 μL, 0.170 mmol) was added to a solution of **2b** (0.080 g, 0.169 mmol) in THF (20 mL), and the color of the solution changed instantly from orange to yellow. The solvent was removed under vacuum and the yellow solid was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL). Slow diffusion of hexane into this solution at room temperature afforded orange crystals of **8b**, one of which was employed for an X-ray structure determination; yield: 0.077 g, 85%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 25 °C): δ = 8.89 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 7.99 (s, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 7.30 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H; Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 2.99 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H; NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.54 (s, 6H; CH<sub>3</sub> and Me<sub>2</sub>-bipy), 0.92 ppm (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H; NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-40^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.85 (d,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 2H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 8.00 (s, 2H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 2H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 5.50 (s, 1H; NH), 3.02 (q,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 2H;  $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.49 (s, 6H;  $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 0.91 ppm (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H;  $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 199.87 (2CO), 192.70 (CO), 175.35 (NC(O)S), 157.06, 154.85, 152.81, 129.11, 125.41 ( $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 37.83 ( $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 23.12 ( $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 16.55 ppm ( $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ); IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2016 vs, 1919s, 1893s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (CO); elemental analysis calcd (%) for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4\text{ReS}$ : C 38.70, H 3.24, N 7.52; found: C 38.67, H 3.31, N 7.50.

**Reaction of 1 with dimethylacetylenedicarboxylate:**  $\text{MeO}_2\text{CC}\equiv\text{CCO}_2\text{Me}$  (12  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.098 mmol) was added to a red solution of **1** (0.040 g, 0.092 mmol) in THF (10 mL). The darkened solution was stirred for 15 min, filtered through diatomaceous earth, and concentrated under vacuum. Addition of hexane (10 mL) caused the precipitation of a red-brown microcrystalline solid **9**, which was washed with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 10$  mL) and dried under vacuum. Red-brown crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a concentrated solution of **9** in THF. One crystal was used for X-ray analysis; yield: 0.028 g, 51%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 12.46 (s, 1H; OH), 9.58 (d,  $J$  = 4.95 Hz, 1H; phen), 9.13 (brs, 1H; phen), 8.74 (brs, 1H; phen), 8.41 (m, 2H; phen), 7.88 (m, 2H; phen), 7.59 (brs, 1H; phen), 3.69 (s, 3H;  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.66 (s, 1H;  $\text{H}_\beta$ ), 3.55 (s, 3H;  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 2.93 (s, 1H;  $\text{H}_\alpha$ ), 2.25 (s, 3H;  $\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.28 (s, 1H;  $\text{H}_\alpha$ ), 0.55 ppm (s, 1H;  $\text{H}_\beta$ );  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 226.95 (Mo=C), 206.24 (CO), 167.26 [Mo-OC(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)], 153.22 (phen), 152.73 (phen), 151.87 (phen), 151.46 (C=O), 146.54 (C=O), 142.53 [C(OH)C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)], 139.61 (phen), 138.14 (phen), 138.00 (phen), 137.07 (phen), 130.42 (phen), 130.17 (phen), 127.63 (phen), 127.45 (phen), 124.74 (phen), 82.92 (C<sub>2</sub> allyl), 55.45 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.18 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 20.41 ppm ( $\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ); IR (THF):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 1947  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; elemental analysis calcd (%) for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{MoN}_2\text{O}_7 \cdot 0.5\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : C 49.97, H 3.93, N 4.75; found: C 50.22, H 3.89, N 4.97.

**Reaction of 2a with dimethylacetylenedicarboxylate:**  $\text{MeO}_2\text{CC}\equiv\text{CCO}_2\text{Me}$  (10  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.083 mmol) was added to a solution of **2a** (0.040 g, 0.083 mmol) in THF (10 mL), and the color of the solution changed instantly from orange to red. The volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue solid was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 mL). Slow diffusion of hexanes into this solution at room temperature afforded red crystals of **10a**; yield: 0.041 g, 84%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 13.73 (brs, 1H; OH), 9.20 (m, 1H; bipy), 8.41 (m, 1H; bipy), 8.00 (m, 2H; bipy), 7.51 (m, 3H; bipy), 7.39 (m, 1H; bipy), 3.70 (s, 3H;  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.66 ppm (s, 3H;  $\text{OCH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 268.95 (Re=C), 205.07 (CO), 199.78 (CO), 168.30 (C=O), 168.09 [Re-OC(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)], 166.41 (C=O), 156.79, 154.54, 153.66, 152.83 (bipy), 140.65 [C(OH)C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)], 139.01, 137.76 (bipy), 127.29, 127.24, 123.28, 122.91 (bipy), 52.50 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 51.61 ppm (OCH<sub>3</sub>); IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 1929 vs, 1853  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; elemental analysis calcd (%) for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_8\text{Re}$ : C 38.84, H 2.94, N 4.76; found: C 38.89, H 2.99, N 4.68.

**Reaction of 2b with dimethylacetylenedicarboxylate:** Following the procedure described above for **10a**, **10b** was prepared by reaction of **2b** (0.080 g, 0.169 mmol) and  $\text{MeO}_2\text{CC}\equiv\text{CCO}_2\text{Me}$  (21  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.170 mmol) in THF (10 mL). Slow diffusion of hexanes into a solution of **10b** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at room temperature afforded red crystals, one of which was used for the structure determination of **10b** by X-ray diffraction; yield: 0.086 g, 67%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 13.67 (brs, 1H; OH), 9.01 (d,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 1H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 8.23 (d,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 1H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 7.98 (m, 2H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 1H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 7.22 (d,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 1H;  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 3.70 (s, 3H;  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.67 (s, 3H;  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 2.54 (s, 3H;  $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 2.51 ppm (s, 3H;  $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 278.61 (Re=C), 207.31 (CO), 201.29 (CO), 169.71 (C=O), 167.89 [Re-OC(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)], 165.71 (C=O), 157.95, 156.04, 155.88, 153.59, 152.88, 151.54 ( $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 135.21 [C(OH)C(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)], 129.44, 125.26, 124.93 ( $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 53.84 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 52.93 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 23.15 ( $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy), 23.02 ppm ( $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{Me}_2$ -bipy); IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 1925, 1840  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; elemental analysis calcd (%) for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_8\text{Re} \cdot 1.5\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : C 36.20, H 2.90, N 3.82; found: C 36.11, H 3.09, N 5.65.

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- [19] In this reaction, half of the hydroxo complex is transformed into the cationic aquo complex, whose labile water ligand is then displaced by the hydroxo ligand of the non-reacted hydroxo complex to afford the OH-bridged product.
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