

# Hybrid Diboroly/Dicarbaboranyl Triple-Deckers: $[(\eta^5\text{-Cyclopentadienyl})\text{cobalt}][\mu,\eta^5\text{-1,3-diboroly})\text{cobalt}]\text{dicarba-heptacarboranyl}$ and $-\text{nonacarboranyl}$ Complexes<sup>☆</sup>

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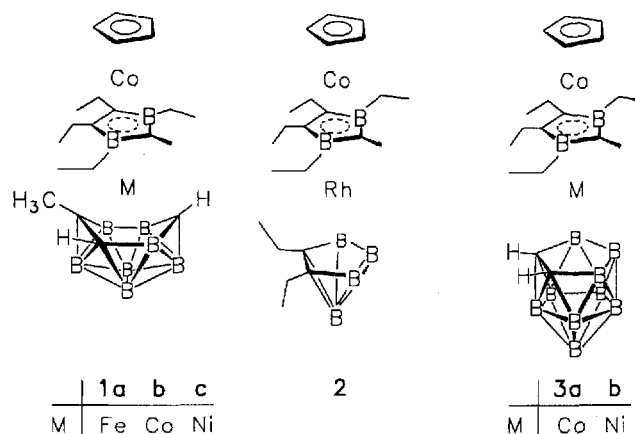
The three-component reactions of the sandwich anion  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2)]^-$  (**4-H**)<sup>-</sup> and various dicarbaborane anions with metal halides are described. Thus, (**4-H**)<sup>-</sup>, *nido*-4,5- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_6\text{H}_9^-$  (**5**), and  $\text{CoCl}_2$  form the 30VE triple-decker  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2)\text{Co}(\eta^5\text{-2,3-C}_2\text{B}_5\text{H}_7)]$  (**6**). An analogous three-component reaction of (**4-H**)<sup>-</sup>, *arachno*-4,5- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_{12}$  (**7**), and  $\text{CoCl}_2$  yields  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2)\text{Co}(\eta^5\text{-6,9-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9)]$  (**8**), which rearranges on heating (57 °C) to give the 1,6-isomer  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2)\text{Co}(\eta^5\text{-1,6-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9)]$  (**9**) with an activation energy of  $127 \pm 10$  kJ/mol. The thermodynamically most stable 1,10-isomer  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2)\text{Co}(\eta^5\text{-1,10-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9)]$  (**10**) is formed by heating of **9** at 180 °C. An alternative route

to **9** is provided by the reaction of *arachno*-6,8- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_{12}$  (**11**) with (**4-H**)<sup>-</sup> and  $\text{CoCl}_2$ . The analogous reaction with  $\text{RhCl}_3$  leads to  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2)\text{Rh}(1,6\text{-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9)]$  (**15**) and unexpectedly to *closo*-2- $(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}(1,6\text{-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9)$  (**12**). The constitutions of the described compounds are derived from their <sup>1</sup>H-, <sup>11</sup>B-, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data as well as mass spectral data. The X-ray structure analyses of **10** and **12** show the expected metal complexes with a  $\text{CoC}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$  framework. In **10** the carbon atoms occupy the capping positions of a bicapped square antiprism. The short Co–Co distance of 3.20 Å is in agreement with the 30VE configuration of **10**. In both **10** and **12**, the distance from the cobalt to the four-coordinate C4 is the shortest Co-to-cage atom distance.

The independently developed complex chemistry of boron heterocycles and of metallaboranes was combined in hybrid triple-decker complexes with a bridging 1,3-diboroly and a terminal carborane ligand<sup>[1]</sup>. Recently, the extension of this strategy to carbon-rich carboranes enabled the synthesis of the complexes **1a–c** with a terminal  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_3\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$  ligand, in which the electronic properties and the structure of the carborane ligand depend on the metal (M = Fe, Co, Ni)<sup>[2]</sup>. In the diamagnetic 30VE iron complex **1a** the carborane ligand and the iron atom form a *closo*- $\text{FeC}_3\text{B}_7$  cage fragment, whereas the 30VE nickel compound **1c** adopts a *nido*- $\text{NiC}_3\text{B}_7$  arrangement. The paramagnetic cobalt complex **1b** (31VE) has an intermediate structure.

An example with a smaller carborane ligand is the diamagnetic  $\text{CoRh}$  triple-decker **2** having 30 VE<sup>[1a]</sup>. The larger *nido*- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_9$  ligand<sup>[3]</sup> was incorporated in the triple-decker complexes **3a**, **b**<sup>[4]</sup>. Diamagnetic **3a** has 30 VE, the complex **3b** is paramagnetic.

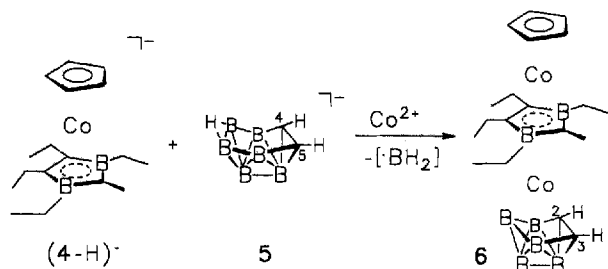
To our knowledge no triple-decker complexes with a terminal dicarbaborane ligand having seven to ten vertices have previously been known. We describe here the first triple-decker metal complexes with a bridging 1,3-diboroly heterocycle and a terminal  $\text{C}_2\text{B}_5\text{H}_7$  or a  $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$  ligand, respectively.



## Results and Discussion

Deprotonation of the 18VE complex  $[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co}\{\eta^5\text{-}(\text{EtC})_2(\text{EtB})_2\text{CHMe}\}]$  (**4**)<sup>[5]</sup> leads to the sandwich anion (**4-H**)<sup>-</sup>, its reaction with  $\text{CoCl}_2$  and the carboranyl anion *nido*-4,5- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_6\text{H}_9^-$  (**5**) gives unexpectedly the slightly air-sensitive triple-decker complex **6**. The brown, crystalline compound was obtained in 10% yield, its mass spectrum is consistent with the loss of one BH unit. This is in agreement with the <sup>11</sup>B-NMR data (see Experimental).

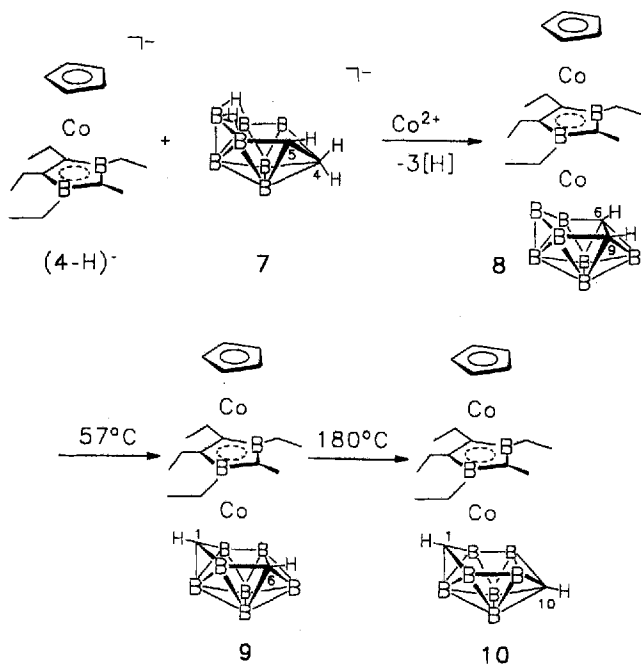
Scheme 1



The elimination of one BH vertex from the ligand during the formation of the complex **6** leading to the  $\text{CoC}_2\text{B}_5$  framework is consistent with other studies of the coordination chemistry of the *nido*-4,5- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_6\text{H}_9^-$  anion which have shown that, for example, the *closo*-( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co-2,3- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_5\text{H}_7$  complex is the predominant product formed by reaction of *nido*-4,5- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_6\text{H}_9$  with  $\text{Na}^+\text{C}_5\text{H}_5^-$  and  $\text{CoCl}_2$ <sup>[6a]</sup>. According to the isolobal analogy<sup>[7]</sup> the ( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )Co fragment functions as a two-electron donor. Thus, the  $\text{CoC}_2\text{B}_5$  framework of **6** contains the 18 skeletal electrons required for a *closo*-metallacarborane structure. The dinuclear **6** is an electronic and structural analog of *closo*-1-( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co-2,3- $\text{Et}_2\text{C}_2\text{B}_5\text{H}_5$ <sup>[6b,c]</sup>.

The analogous three-component reaction with the larger *arachno*-4,5- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_{12}^-$  anion (**7**)<sup>[8]</sup> leads to the expected triple-decker complex [( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )Co( $\eta^5\text{-6,9-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ )] (**8**) in 14% yield. The mass spectra and the <sup>11</sup>B-NMR data of the brown air-stable product indicate that (7-3H) is present in **8**. The metallacarborane cage fragment has 22 skeletal electrons and adopts a 10 vertex *closo* structure.

Scheme 2



As evidenced by the NMR data, heating of a  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  solution of **8** at 57°C results in the formation of the metalla-

dicarborene **9**. The isomerization of **8** to **9** involves a rearrangement where the carbon atoms migrate from their adjacent 6,9-positions in **8** to the non-adjacent 1,6-positions in **9**. This isomerization is entirely consistent with the earlier studies of Hawthorne et al.<sup>[9]</sup> who showed that the [ $2\text{-}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co-6,9-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ] complex readily isomerizes to [ $2\text{-}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co-1,6-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ] upon heating.

The isomerization of **8** was monitored by NMR spectroscopy, which reveals a first-order reaction and a half-life time of 40.5 h at 57°C. The half-life time of **8** decreases to 3.7 h by increasing the reaction temperature to 75°C. The activation energy was calculated to be  $127 \pm 10$  kJ/mol. A comparable value of 129 kJ/mol was found for the isomerization of [ $2\text{-}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co-6,9-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ] (**11**) to [ $2\text{-}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co-1,6-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ] (**12**)<sup>[9a,b]</sup>. Further isomerization occurs by heating **9** to 180°C, resulting in the formation of the brown air-stable **10** in 72% yield, which is the triple-decker analog of [ $2\text{-}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Co-1,10-C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ] (**13**)<sup>[9b]</sup>. These isomerizations follow established rules<sup>[10]</sup>. The metal is located in the position of highest connectivity, the carbon atoms increase their separation and migrate to positions with a lower or the same connectivity. The thermodynamically most favored arrangement of this metallacarborane is realized when both carbon atoms are located in the four-coordination capping positions.

The comparison of the <sup>11</sup>B-NMR data of the triple-decker compounds **8–10** with those of the isomeric sandwich complexes [( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ )] **11–13** reveals the electronic similarity between the ( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co organometallic fragment and the ( $\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\mu,\eta^5\text{-Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )Co complex fragment (Table 1).

Table 1. <sup>11</sup>B-NMR shifts of **8–13**

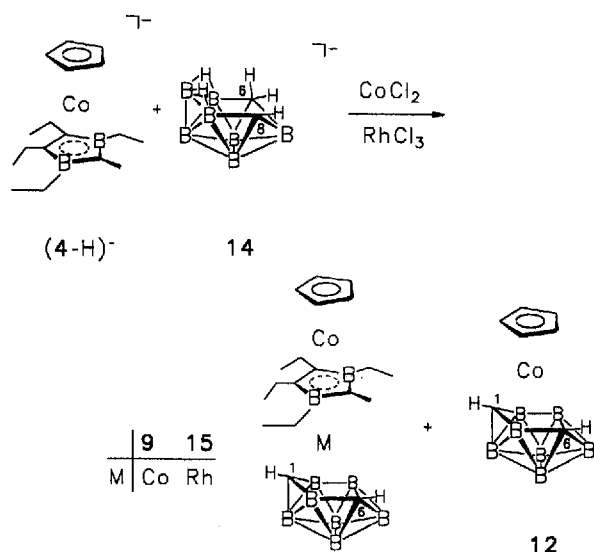
compound	<sup>11</sup> B NMR data $\delta$						ref.
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\text{Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )- Co-6,9-( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>8</b> )	81.1	18.2(2B)*	1.0	-11.1 (2B)	-23.0	-28.1 (2B)	this work
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co-6,9- ( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>11</b> )	79.3	--	-3.0	-11.7(2B)	-24.8	-29.3(2B)	[9a]
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\text{Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )- Co-1,6-( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>9</b> )	21.0	16.5(2B)*	-4.0(2B)	-18.1	-24.1(2B)	-32.2	this work
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co-1,6- ( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>12</b> )	20.2	--	-4.3	-20.2	-24.2	-33.0	[9b]
				-6.8	-25.4		
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\text{Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )- Co-1,10-( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>10</b> )	17.1(2B)*	4.0(3B)	-17.2(2B)	-20.1(2B)			this work
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co-1,10- ( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>13</b> )		5.2(1B)	-18.0(2B)	-19.2(2B)			[9a]
		1.6(2B)					
( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ )Co( $\text{Et}_4\text{MeC}_3\text{B}_2$ )- Rh-1,10-( $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_9$ ) ( <b>15</b> )	14.5(2B)*	1.3(3B)	-17.2(2B)	-20.8(2B)			this work

\* These signals are assigned to the boron atoms of the diborolyl ring.

When the carborane *arachno*-6,8- $\text{C}_2\text{B}_7\text{H}_{12}^-$  (**14**)<sup>[8]</sup>, an isomer of **7**, is treated with the sandwich anion (**4-H**)<sup>-</sup> and  $\text{CoCl}_2$  the triple-decker complex **9** is formed in 9% yield, which is the same compound obtained by rearrangement of **8** at 57°C. When  $\text{RhCl}_3$  is used the analogous reaction affords the 30VE triple-decker complex **15**. Surprisingly, in the latter reaction the sandwich complex **12**<sup>[9b]</sup> is formed in low yield. Presumably, it occurs via exchange of the 1,3-

diborolyl ligand in  $(4-H)^-$  by **14**. Similar exchange reactions were observed when  $(4-H)^-$  was allowed to react with  $CH_3C_3B_7H_9^-$  as well as with  $S_2B_9H_{10}^-$  [11].

Scheme 3

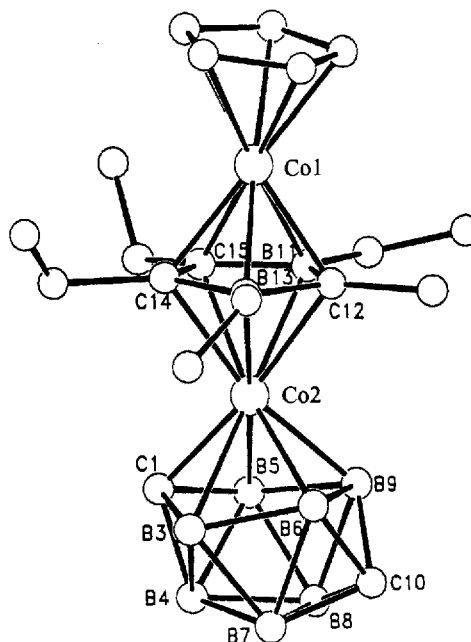


### X-ray Crystal-Structure Analyses

The quality of the crystal of **10** was not very good. Only 1/3 of the measured reflections up to  $\Theta = 22^\circ$  was observed [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]. The Co atoms were refined anisotropically, all other non-hydrogen atoms isotropically. The results of the refinement confirm the molecular topology derived from the NMR data, but do not allow any detailed discussion of bond lengths and angles. Compound **10** shows a triple-decker arrangement with the terminal carborane ligand 1,10- $C_2B_7H_9$  (Figure 1). The best planes through the cyclopentadienyl and the diborolyl ligands exhibit an interplanar angle of  $6.1^\circ$ . The cobalt-cobalt distance (3.20 Å) is significantly shorter than in the 31VE complex **1b** (3.32 Å), which is explained by the difference in the electronic contribution of the *nido*- $C_2B_7H_9$  and the *nido*- $C_3B_7H_{10}$  carborane ligands. In contrast to **1b**, in **10** (30VE) no antibonding orbital is occupied. In the metallacarborane **10** the  $CoC_2B_7$  fragment adopts a *closo* structure of a bicapped square antiprism, in which the capping positions are occupied with carbon atoms.

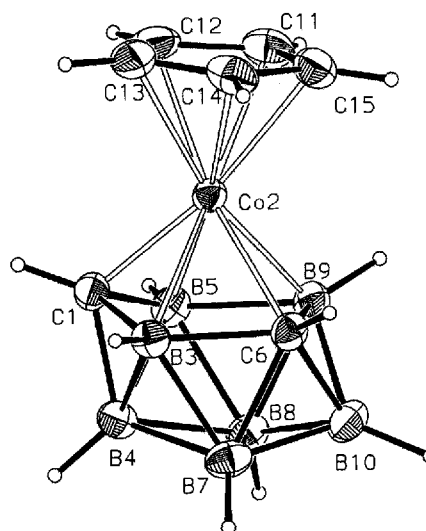
For **12** all non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, hydrogen atoms were localized in a difference Fourier synthesis and refined isotropically. The cobaltacarborane **12** contains 22 skeletal electrons and 10 vertices for which a *closo* arrangement is expected. The X-ray structure analysis confirms the bicapped square antiprism with one carbon and one boron atom in the capping positions (Figure 2). The structural data reveal similarities to the isoelectronic ferracarborane  $[\eta^6-C_6(CH_3)_3H_3]Fe-(1,6-C_2B_7H_9)]^{12}$ . The complexed face (C1–B3–C6–B9–B5) in **12** is planar with the exception of C1 which juts out by 0.43 Å. The plane through the cyclopentadienyl ligand and the best plane through C1–B3–C6–B9–B5 enclose an interplanar

Figure 1. Molecular structure of **10**. Selected bond lengths [Å]: Co2–C1 1.95(3), Co2–B3 2.19(3), Co2–B5 2.12(3), Co2–B6 2.05(3), Co2–B9 2.07(2), Co2–B11 2.14(2), Co2–B13 2.09(3), Co2–C12 2.07(2), Co2–C14(15) 2.09, 2.08(2), Co1–B11(13) 2.07, 2.08(3), Co1–C12 1.98(2), Co1–C14(15) 2.00, 2.02 (2)



angle of  $7^\circ$ . The shortest distance of the cobalt to a cage atom is Co2–C1 [1.913(3) Å].

Figure 2. Molecular structure of **12**. Selected bond lengths [Å]: Co2–C1 1.913(3), Co2–B3 2.125(4), Co2–B5 2.156(4), Co2–C6 2.070(3), Co2–B9 2.069(4), Co2–C(Cp) 2.024–2.059(4), C1–B 1.591–1.613(5), C6–B 1.622–1.777(5), B10–B 1.678–1.704(6), B4–B7 1.764(6), all other B–B 1.800–1.853(6)



### Conclusion

Reactions of the sandwich anion  $(4-H)^-$  and various dicarbaborane anions with  $CoCl_2$  lead to dinuclear species with triple-decker structures. The products have electronic properties similar to those of analogous  $C_5H_5Co$  complexes. Thus, the elimination of  $BH_2$  from the *nido*-4,5-

$C_2B_6H_5^-$  carboranyl anion during the synthesis of **6** indicates that the fragments  $Co(4-H)$  and  $Co(C_5H_5)$  impose similar electronic requirements on the carboranyl ligand. The thermal rearrangement of **8** to **9** and then **10** parallels that of the analogous  $Co(C_5H_5)$  complex. These findings are further proof for the isolobal relationship between  $(4-H^-)$  and  $C_5H_5^-$ .

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## Experimental

All reactions and manipulations were performed in dry glassware under nitrogen by using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were distilled from appropriate drying agents under nitrogen before use.  $(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(\eta^5-MeEt_4C_3B_2H)$  (**4**)<sup>[5]</sup>,  $Na^+C_2B_6H_5^-$  (**5**)<sup>[13]</sup>,  $Na^+arachno-4,5-C_2B_7H_{12}$  (**7**)<sup>[8]</sup>,  $Na^+arachno-6,8-C_2B_7H_{12}$ <sup>[14]</sup> were prepared by previously described methods.  $CoCl_2$  was dried for 15 h at 120°C in vacuo and stored under nitrogen until used. – NMR:  $C_6D_6$  solutions, Bruker AM 200 and AM 500.

$(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(\mu,\eta^5-Et_4MeC_3B_2)Co(\eta^5-2,3-C_2B_5H_7)$  (**6**): 191 mg (0.61 mmol) of **4** was deprotonated with a solution of 0.38 ml of 1.6 M *n*BuLi in 10 ml of THF. 195 mg (1.60 mmol) of  $Na^+C_2B_6H_5^-$  (**5**) and 118 mg (0.91 mmol) of  $CoCl_2$  were added, and the reaction mixture was warmed to room temp. The volatile components were evaporated, and the residue was adsorbed on  $Al_2O_3$ . The product was eluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  and separated by preparative

TLC on silica gel plates ( $CH_2Cl_2/C_5H_{12}$ , 1:1; 500  $\mu$ m). Crystallization from a hexane solution gave 29 mg (10%) of brown **6**, m.p. 101°C. –  $^1H$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 200 MHz):  $\delta$  = 5.35 (br, CH, 2H), 3.84 (s,  $C_5H_5$ , 5H), 2.34 (q,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 2.33 (q,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 2.29 (s,  $CCH_3$ , 3H), 1.2–1.7 (m,  $BCH_2CH_3$ , 10H), 1.13 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 6H). –  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 64.2 MHz):  $\delta$  = 72, 22, 14 (2 B), 1, –5, –8. – MS (CI),  $m/z$  (%): 457 [ $M^+$ ] (35), 372 [ $M^+ - C_2B_5H_7$ ] (25). Highly resolved mass for  $^{12}C_{19}^{1}H_{35}^{11}B_7^{59}Co_2$ : calcd. 458.2054; found 458.2040.

$(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(Et_4Me-1,3-C_3B_2)Co(6,9-C_2B_7H_9)$  (**8**): 163 mg (1.21 mmol) of  $Na^+4,5-C_2B_7H_{12}^-$  (**7**) and 181 mg (1.40 mmol) of  $CoCl_2$  were added at –78°C to a solution of 332 mg (1.06 mmol) of  $(4-H)^-$  in 15 ml of THF. The work-up was similar to **6**. Crystallization from a hexane solution gave 74 mg (14%) of brown, air-stable **8**, m.p. 82°C. –  $^1H$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  = 4.35 (br, CH, 1H), 4.04 ( $C_5H_5$ , s, 5H), 3.62 (br, CH, 1H), 2.63 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 2.42 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 2.02 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 1.88 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 1.72 (s,  $CCH_3$ , 3H), 1.61 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 3H), 1.55 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 3H), 1.12 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 3H), 1.04 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 3H). –  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 64.2 MHz):  $\delta$  = 81.1, 18.2 (2 B), 1.0, –11.1 (2 B), –23.0, –28.1 (2 B). –  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 50.3 MHz):  $\delta$  = 96 (br), 81.2, 58 (br), 39 (br), 25.1, 24.8, 17.7, 13.8, 13.6, 12 (br). – MS (EI),  $m/z$  (%): 481 [ $M^+$ ] (100), 372 [ $M^+ - C_2B_7H_9$ ] (65). Highly resolved mass for  $^{12}C_{19}^{1}H_{37}^{11}B_9^{59}Co_2$ : calcd. 482.2397; found 482.2401.

$(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(\mu,\eta^5-Et_4MeC_3B_2)Co(\eta^5-1,6-C_2B_7H_9)$  (**9**): a) 152 mg (0.49 mmol) of  $(4-H)^-$  was treated with 86 mg (0.63 mmol) of *arachno*- $Na^+6,8-C_2B_7H_{12}^-$  and 98 mg (0.74 mmol) of  $CoCl_2$  as in the previous experiment. The work-up furnished 23 mg (9%) of brown **9**, m.p. 82°C.

b) A sealed NMR sample of **8** in  $C_6D_6$  was heated at 57°C. The isomerization of **8** to **9** was followed by integration of the  $C_5H_5$  signals in the NMR spectroscopy. The same experiment was repeated at 75°C. Kinetic data:  $k_{57^\circ C} = 4.75 \cdot 10^{-6}/s$ ,  $k_{75^\circ C} = 5.27 \cdot 10^{-5}/s$  (yield quantitative). –  $^1H$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 200 MHz):  $\delta$  = 4.18 (br, CH, 1H), 4.01 (s,  $C_5H_5$ , 5H), 2.76 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 2.28 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 1.85 (s,  $CCH_3$ , 3H), 1.78 (q,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 4H), 1.43 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 6H), 1.08 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 6H), 0.95 (br, CH, 1H). –  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 64.2 MHz):  $\delta$  = 21.0 (2 B), 16.5 (2 B), –4.0 (2 B), –18.1 (2 B), –32.2. –  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 50.3 MHz):  $\delta$  = 80.8, 40 (br), 19.6, 17.7, 13.5, 11 (br). – MS (EI),  $m/z$  (%): 481 [ $M^+$ ] (100), Highly resolved mass for  $^{12}C_{19}^{1}H_{37}^{11}B_9^{59}Co_2$ : calcd. 482.2397; found 482.2401.

$(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(\mu,\eta^5-Et_4Me-1,3-C_3B_2)Co(\eta^5-1,10-C_2B_7H_9)$  (**10**): 25 mg (51  $\mu$ mol) of **9** was dissolved in  $[D_8]$ toluene and the solution sealed in an NMR tube. The sample was heated for 3 h at 182°C (NMR spectroscopic yield 85%). The reaction mixture was separated by TLC. Crystallization from  $CH_2Cl_2/C_5H_{12}$  (1:5) afforded 18 mg (72%) of brown **10**, m.p. 85°C. –  $^1H$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 200 MHz):  $\delta$  = 7.85 (br, CH, 1H), 6.30 (br, CH, 1H), 4.01 (s,  $C_5H_5$ , 5H), 2.81 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 2.34 (m,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 2H), 1.93 (s,  $CCH_3$ , 3H), 1.85 (q,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 4H), 1.56 (t,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 6H), 1.18 (br,  $CH_2CH_3$ , 6H). –  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 64.2 MHz):  $\delta$  = 17.1 (2 B), 4.0 (3 B), –17.2 (2 B), –20.1 (2 B). – MS (EI),  $m/z$  (%): 481 [ $M^+$ ] (100). Highly resolved mass for  $^{12}C_{19}^{1}H_{37}^{11}B_9^{59}Co_2$ : calcd. 482.2375; found 482.2375.

$(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(\mu,\eta^5-Et_4Me-1,3-C_3B_2)Rh(\eta^5-1,6-C_2B_7H_9)$  (**15**) and  $(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Co(\eta^5-1,6-C_2B_7H_9)$  (**12**): 180 mg (0.57 mmol) of **4** was deprotonated with 0.38 ml of 1.5 M MeLi in 10 ml of THF. To this solution 68.0 mg (0.6 mmol) of *arachno*- $Na^+6,8-C_2B_7H_{12}^-$  and 190.6 mg (0.57 mmol) of  $RhCl_3 \cdot 3 H_3CCN$  were added. The stirred reaction mixture was warmed up to room temp. After 1 h the vol-

Table 2. Crystallographic data collection and structural refinement information<sup>[a]</sup>

	10	12
formula	$C_{19}H_{35}B_9Co_2$	$C_7H_{14}B_7Co$
fw	478.6	228.3
space group	Pcab	$P2_1/n$
Z	16	4
a [Å]	17.45 (1)	7.177 (5)
b [Å]	18.29 (1)	12.280 (7)
c [Å]	30.95 (2)	13.098 (8)
$\beta$ [deg]		104.79 (5)
V [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	9878 (10)	1116 (1)
$\mu$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	13.5	14.9
cryst.size [mm]	0.15x0.20x0.57	0.05x0.30x0.55
$D_{calcd}$ [gcm <sup>-3</sup> ]	1.29	1.39
temperature	ambient	203 K
2 $\theta$ max [deg]	44	60
hkl collected	17, 19, 32	$\pm 10, 17, 18$
no. of rflns measured	6030	3224
no. of unique rflns	6030	3224
no. of obsd rflns [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	2264	2175
no of parameters	284	193
R1	0.106	0.043
wR2	0.329	0.113

<sup>[a]</sup> Further details of the crystal structure investigation may be obtained from the Fachinformationszentrum Karlsruhe, Gesellschaft für wissenschaftlich-technische Information mbH, D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen (Germany), on quoting the depository numbers CSD-404508 (**12**) and -404509 (**10**), the names of the authors, and the journal citation.

atile components were evaporated, the residue was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and the solution filtered through  $\text{SiO}_2$ . The products were eluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and separated by preparative TLC on silica gel plates ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{C}_5\text{H}_{12}$ , 1:1; 500  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Crystallization from  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{14}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution yielded 17 mg (12%) of red **12**, m.p. 157 °C, and 14 mg (4.4%) of brown **15**. —  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 200 MHz):  $\delta$  = 4.6 (br., CH, 1H), 3.89 (s,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ , 5H), 2.33 (m,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ , 2H), 2.20 (m,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ , 2H), 1.82 (s,  $\text{CCH}_3$ , 3H), 1.51–1.27 (m,  $\text{BC}_2\text{H}_5$ , 10H), 1.26 (t,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ , 6H), 0.95 (br., CH, 1H). —  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 64.2 MHz):  $\delta$  = 14.5 (2 B), 1.3 (3 B), -17.2 (2 B), -20.8 (2 B). — MS (EI),  $m/z$  (%): 525 [ $\text{M}^+$ ] (100).

*X-ray Crystal-Structure Analyses of 10 and 12:* The intensity data were collected with a Siemens-Stoe AED2 diffractometer (Mo- $K_\alpha$  radiation, graphite monochromator,  $\omega$  scan) and corrected for Lp and absorption effects (empirical). The structures were solved by direct methods using the SHELXS86 and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques based on  $F^2$  of all reflections (SHELXL93).

\* Dedicated to Prof. H. Roesky on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

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