

Di- and Trinuclear Alkyne- and Vinylidenerhodium(I) Complexes Including the X-ray Crystal Structure of a Dendrimer-Like Rh₃ Compound[☆]

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The dimer [RhClL₂]₂ (**1**; L = PiPr₃) reacts with 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CH)₃ to give in the initial step the tris(alkyne)trirhodium compound **2**, which rearranges in toluene at 60 °C to yield the isomeric tris(vinylidene) complex **3**. Treatment of either **2** or **3** with pyridine affords the trinuclear tris(alkynyl)trihydridorhodium(III) complex **4**. The trisilyl derivative 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CSiMe₃)₃ reacts with **1** to form the mononuclear compound **5**, in which only one of the C≡C bonds is coordinated to Rh. The diynes 1,3- and 1,2-C₆H₄(C≡CH)₂ behave analogously to 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CH)₃ and upon treatment with **1** yield initially the

bis(alkyne)dirhodium complexes **6** and **7** and subsequently the bis(vinylidene)dirhodium isomers **8** and **9**. The reactions of 1,2-, 1,3-, and 1,4-C₆H₄(C≡CSiMe₃)₂ with **1** take a similar course and give the bis(alkyne) and bis(vinylidene) compounds **10–12** and **13–15**, respectively. In the same way, the dinuclear bis(alkyne) and bis(vinylidene) complexes **16** and **17** have been prepared from **1** and the naphthalene derivative 1,5-C₁₀H₆(C≡CH)₂. The molecular structures of **17** and of the dendrimer-like Rh₃ compound **3** have been determined by X-ray crystallography.

We have recently shown that terminal alkynes HC≡CR are easily converted to the isomeric vinylidenes :C=CHR in the coordination sphere of rhodium(I).^{[1][2]} This process is thermodynamically preferred,^[3] and based on ab initio MO studies its mechanism is quite well understood.^[4] Besides acetylene and monosubstituted derivatives HC≡CR with R = alkyl, aryl, vinyl, SiR₃ or CO₂R, also butadiyne^[5] and 1,4-bis(ethynyl)benzene^[6] have been used as substrates and, in the presence of [RhCl(PiPr₃)₂] as the template, transformed to the isomeric bridge-forming bis(vinylidenes).

The present paper reports that likewise to 1,4-C₆H₄(C≡CH)₂ not only the 1,3- and 1,2-bis(ethynyl)benzene isomers but also the trisubstituted benzene derivative 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CH)₃ forms alkyne- and vinylidenerhodium(I) complexes upon treatment with [RhClL₂]₂ (**1**; L = PiPr₃). An interesting facet of this work is that while the disilylated compounds 1,3- and 1,2-C₆H₄(C≡CSiMe₃)₂ behave similarly to the parent diynes and yield dinuclear rhodium complexes, the trisilylated triyne 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CSiMe₃)₃ reacts with **1** to give a mononuclear alkynerhodium(I) compound, leaving two of the three triple bonds of 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CSiMe₃)₃ uncoordinated.

Rhodium Complexes from 1,3,5-C₆H₃(C≡CH)₃ and the Trisilylated Derivative

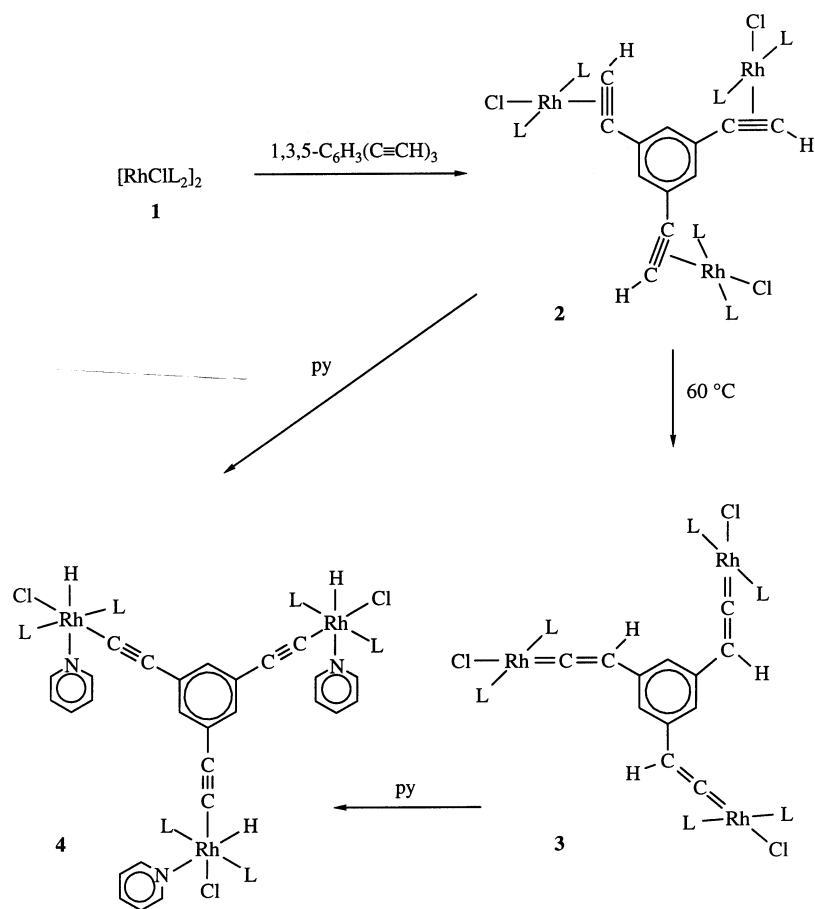
Treatment of a solution of the reactive dimer **1**^[7] with 1,3,5-tris(ethynyl)benzene in pentane leads even at –60 °C

to a rapid change of colour and, after warming to room temperature and removal of the solvent, gives the triyne complex **2** in ca. 80% yield. The yellow microcrystalline solid is moderately air-sensitive and easily soluble in most organic solvents.

The proposed structure of **2** (see Scheme 1) is fully supported by the spectroscopic data. The IR spectrum displays only one strong C≡C stretch at 1795 cm^{–1} indicating that all three triple bonds are involved in the coordination to the rhodium center. In agreement with this, the ¹H-NMR spectrum of **2** shows one signal for the ≡CH protons at δ = 4.02, which due to Rh-H coupling is split into a doublet. For the CH₃ protons of the PiPr₃ units a doublet of virtual triplets appears being consistent with the *trans* disposition of the two phosphane ligands at each metal center.^[8]

Although **2** is stable both in the solid state and in solution at room temperature, on warming in toluene at 60 °C it slowly rearranges to the tris(vinylidene) complex **3**. In contrast to **2**, the isomer **3** is a dark green solid, the NMR spectra of which indicate a symmetrical structure as shown in Scheme 1. There is only one resonance for the PiPr₃ phosphorus atoms in the ³¹P-NMR and only one set of signals for the phosphanyl CH₃ protons in the ¹H-NMR spectrum. The most characteristic feature in the ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **3** is the position of the signal of the α-C atom of the vinylidene ligands which appears at δ = 292.9 as a doublet of triplets. Both the Rh-C and P-C couplings are significantly larger than those of the resonance for the vinylidene β-C atom at δ = 111.1.

[◇] Part 45: J. Gil-Rubio, M. Laubender, H. Werner, *Organometallics* **1989**, *17*, 1202–1207.

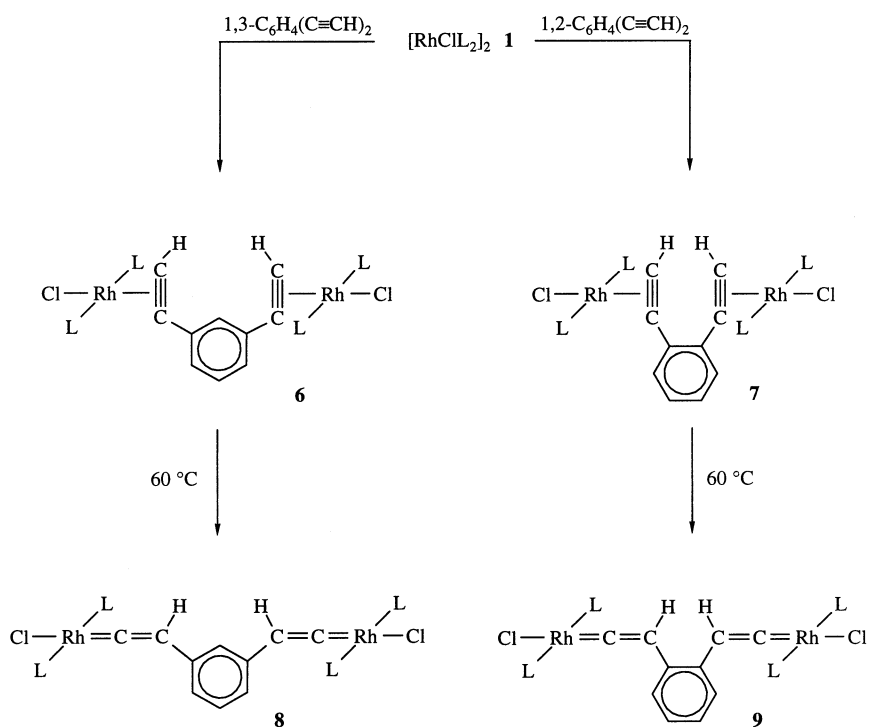
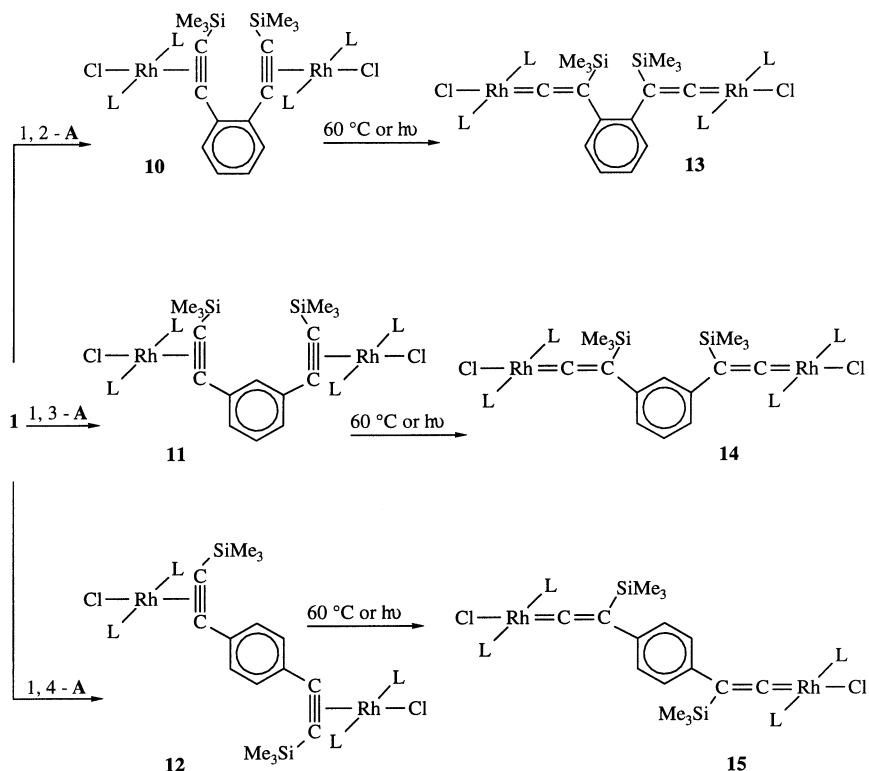
Scheme 1. L = $\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3$ 

The result of the X-ray crystal structure analysis of **3** is shown in Figure 1. The coordination geometry around the three rhodium centers is square-planar with bond angles (mean values) $\text{P}-\text{Rh}-\text{C}$ of 89.9° and $\text{P}-\text{Rh}-\text{Cl}$ of 90.3° . The axes $\text{Cl}-\text{Rh}-\text{C}$ and $\text{P}-\text{Rh}-\text{P}$ are not exactly linear, the bond angles lying between 166.5° and 177.4° (for $\text{Cl}-\text{Rh}-\text{C}$) and between 171.09° and 173.61° (for $\text{P}-\text{Rh}-\text{P}$), respectively. The $\text{Rh}-\text{C}$ and $\text{C}-\text{C}$ distances of the vinylidenemetal units are in the expected range, i.e., they are almost identical to the corresponding bond lengths in *trans*- $[\text{RhCl}(\text{C}=\text{CHMe})(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2]$ and *trans*- $[\text{RhCl}(\text{C}=\text{CHC}(\text{Me})=\text{CH}_2)(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2]$.^{[9][10]} An unexpected result is that the planes formed by each rhodium center, the α - and β -carbon atoms of the vinylidene ligand and the *ipso*-C atom of the substituted benzene are not coplanar with the central six-membered ring; the respective dihedral angles are between 10° and 15° . The plane of the C_6 ring is not exactly perpendicular to the three $[\text{Rh}, \text{P}, \text{P}, \text{Cl}, \alpha\text{-C}]$ planes, in this case the dihedral angles being 81 – 89° . The molecule of **3** as a whole can be described as a dendrimer-like species (zero-order dendrimer) with three branched organometallic moieties around the planar C_6 core.

The mechanism of the isomerization of **2** to **3** is not clear as yet. Due to theoretical studies^[4] it is conceivable that in

the initial step an intramolecular oxidative addition occurs and a tris(alkynyl)trishydridotrirhodium complex is generated. In the second step, this intermediate could rearrange to the vinylidene isomer **3**. The assumed stepwise mechanism is supported by the observation that on treatment of **2** with pyridine the trinuclear compound **4** containing three rhodium(III) centers is formed. The same product is also obtained from **3** and excess pyridine. The ^1H -NMR spectrum of **4** displays in the high-field region a signal at $\delta = -17.64$ (with the intensity of 3 H) which is consistent with the proposed structure.

In contrast to 1,3,5- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_3$, the trisilylated derivative 1,3,5- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_3$ reacts with **1** to afford the mononuclear alkyne complex **5** (Scheme 2). The IR spectrum of the bright orange solid shows besides the expected band at ca. 1800 cm^{-1} for the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ stretching frequency of a metal-bonded alkyne, another absorption at 2140 cm^{-1} which is typical for non-coordinated $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bonds. In agreement with this result, the ^{13}C -NMR spectrum of **5** displays two signals at $\delta = 103.7$ and 95.9 for the carbon atoms of the uncoordinated and two signals at $\delta = 86.4$ and 82.2 for those of the coordinated triple bonds. Owing to the $\text{Rh}-\text{C}$ coupling, the latter resonances are split into doublets with $J(\text{RhC})$ of 13.5 Hz .

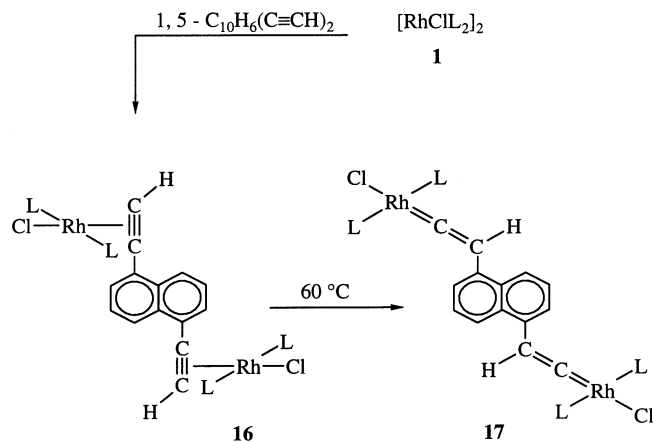
Scheme 3. L = $\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3$ Scheme 4. A = $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_2$; L = $\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3$ 

arrangement of the mononuclear complexes $\text{trans-}[\text{RhCl}(\text{RC}\equiv\text{CSiR}'_3)(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2]$ to $\text{trans-}[\text{RhCl}\{\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{SiR}'_3)\text{R}\}(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2]$,^[11] there is no evidence that the isomerization of **10–12** to **13–15** occurs stepwise and thus

a concerted mechanism is most likely.^{[4][12]} Although there might be some steric hinderance between the two bulky $\text{RhCl}(\text{alkyne})(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2$ units, particularly in compounds **10** and **11**, the reaction of the bis(alkyne) to the bis(vinylidene)

complexes proceeds very cleanly and is not accompanied by the formation of oligomeric or polymeric by-products.

Scheme 5. L = $\text{P}t\text{Pr}_3$



Not only 1,2-, 1,3-, and 1,4-bis(ethynyl)benzene but also 1,5-bis(ethynyl)naphthalene reacts with the starting material **1** in a stepwise manner to give initially the bis(alkyne) and then the bis(vinylidene) compounds **16** and **17**, respectively (Scheme 5). Both have been isolated as red-violet or violet solids in good yield. Single crystals of **17** could be grown from toluene and the molecular structure was determined by X-ray crystallography. As is shown in Figure 2, the dinuclear complex contains a center of inversion which is the midpoint of the C4–C4' bond. Both rhodium atoms possess a square-planar coordination sphere with axes

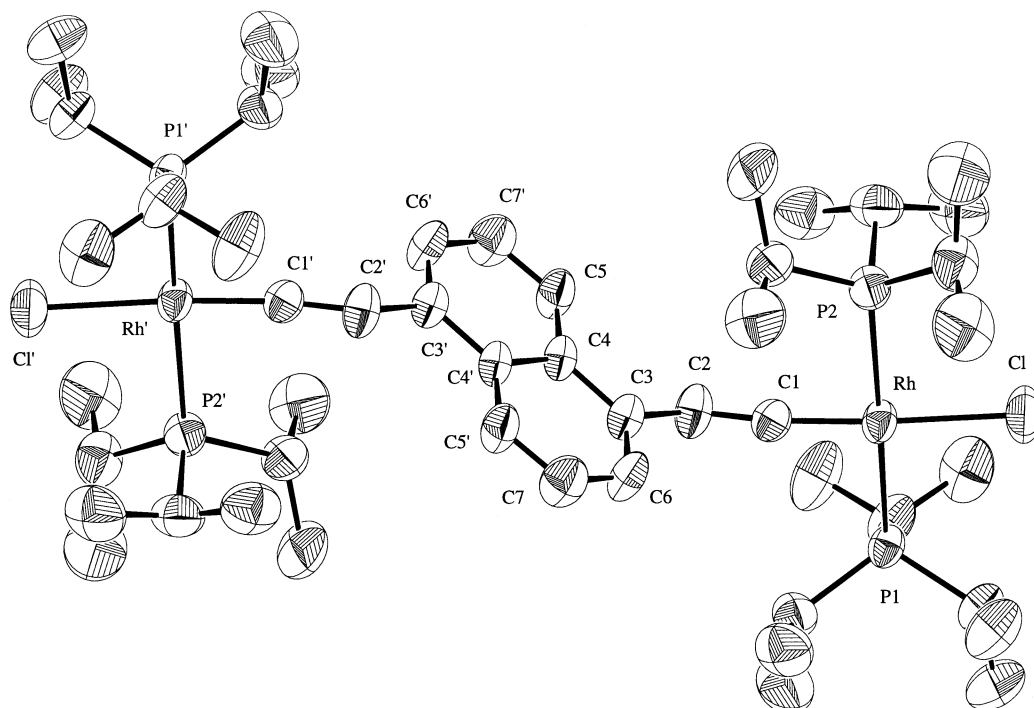
P1–Rh–P2 and Cl–Rh–Cl that deviate slightly from linearity. The distances Rh–Cl and C1–C2 are almost the same as in the tris(vinylidene) complex **3** and agree with the cumulene-like arrangement. A characteristic structural feature of **17** in the crystal is that the dihedral angle between the planes $[\text{Rh}, \text{P1}, \text{P2}, \text{Cl}]$ and $[\text{C3}, \text{C4}, \text{C5}, \text{C6}, \text{C7}]$ is $78.8(3)^\circ$ and the torsional angle C1–C2–C3–C4 is $137(1)^\circ$. In order to explain these unexpected values, we assume that the non-perpendicular arrangement between the coordination planes $[\text{ClRhP}_2\text{C}]$ and the naphthalene minimizes the steric repulsion between the two space-filling $[\text{RhCl}(\text{P}t\text{Pr}_3)_2]$ units.

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Experimental Section

All operations were carried out under argon using Schlenk techniques. The starting materials **1**,^[7a] the diynes 1,2- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2$, 1,3- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2$, and 1,5- $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2$, the triyne 1,3,5- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_3$, and the trimethylsilyl derivatives 1,2- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_2$ and 1,3,5- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_3$ were prepared analogously as described in the literature.^[13] 1,3- and 1,4- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_2$ were commercial products from ABCR. – IR: Perkin-Elmer 1420. – UV/Vis: Hewlett Packard 8452 A. – NMR: Bruker AC 200 and AMX 400 [dvt = doublet of virtual triplets; $N = {}^3J(\text{PH}) + {}^5J(\text{PH})$ or ${}^2J(\text{PC}) + {}^4J(\text{PC})$, respectively]. – Melting points determined by DTA.

Figure 2. Molecular structure (ORTEP plot) of **17**^[a]



^[a] Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: Rh–Cl 2.374(2), Rh–P1 2.360(2), Rh–P2 2.359(2), Rh–Cl 1.780(8), C1–C2 1.30(1), C2–C3 1.48(1), C3–C4 1.42(1), C4–C5 1.42(1), C6–C7 1.41(1), C4–C4' 1.42(1); P1–Rh–P2 172.30(8), Cl–Rh–Cl 174.2(3), P1–Rh–Cl 90.96(8), P1–Rh–Cl 89.3(2), P2–Rh–Cl 90.28(8), P2–Rh–Cl 88.7(2), Rh–Cl–C2 173.1(7), C1–C2–C3 126.9(8).

1. Preparation of $[1,3,5\text{-C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_3\{\text{RhCl}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2\}_3]$ (2**):** A solution of 126 mg (0.14 mmol) of **1** in 20 ml of pentane was treated dropwise at -60°C with a solution of 14 mg (0.09 mmol) of 1,3,5- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_3$ in 3 ml of pentane. A fairly rapid change of colour from dark red to orange occurred. After the solution was warmed to room temperature, it was stirred for 10 min and then the solvent was removed in vacuo. The yellow microcrystalline residue was repeatedly washed with small portions (1–2 ml) of pentane (0°C) and dried; yield 106 mg (77%); m. p. 125°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3070\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\equiv\text{CH}$), 1795 cm^{-1} ($\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$). – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 8.70$ (s, 3 H, C_6H_3), 4.02 [d, $J(\text{RhH}) = 2.4\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, $\equiv\text{CH}$], 2.36 (m, 18 H, PCHCH_3), 1.27 [dvt, $N = 12.8$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.1\text{ Hz}$, 54 H, PCHCH_3], 0.98 [dvt, $N = 13.9$, $J(\text{HH}) = 7.0\text{ Hz}$, 54 H, PCHCH_3]. – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 33.3$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 117.0\text{ Hz}$]. – $\text{C}_{66}\text{H}_{132}\text{Cl}_3\text{P}_6\text{Rh}_3$ (1526.7): calcd. C 51.92, H 8.71; found C 51.80, H 8.91.

2. Preparation of $[1,3,5\text{-C}_6\text{H}_3\{\text{CH}=\text{C}=\text{RhCl}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2\}_3]$ (3**):** A solution of 106 mg (0.07 mmol) of **2** in 10 ml of toluene was stirred for 2 h at 60°C , which led to a change of colour from orange-yellow to dark green. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in ca. 2 ml of toluene, and the solution was chromatographed on Al_2O_3 (neutral, activity grade V, height of column 6 cm). With toluene, a blue-green fraction was eluted which was brought to dryness in vacuo. The remaining green solid was washed twice with 2-ml portions of pentane (0°C) and dried; yield 78 mg (73%); m. p. 159°C (dec.). – IR (CH_2Cl_2): $\tilde{\nu} = 1620\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\text{C}=\text{C}$). – UV (hexane): $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 580, 438, 294, 242, 224\text{ nm}$. – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 6.77$ (s, 3 H, C_6H_3), 2.74 (m, 18 H, PCHCH_3), 1.31 [dvt, $N = 13.4$, $J(\text{HH}) = 7.0\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3], signal of $\equiv\text{CH}$ protons partially covered by signal of PCHCH_3 protons. – ^{13}C NMR (50.3 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 292.9$ [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 59.8$, $J(\text{PC}) = 15.8\text{ Hz}$, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}$], $133.2, 129.7$ (both s, C_6H_3), 111.1 [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 15.2$, $J(\text{PC}) = 6.3\text{ Hz}$, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}=\text{C}$], 23.8 (vt, $N = 20.2\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3), 20.2 (s, PCHCH_3). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 43.1$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 135.1\text{ Hz}$]. – $\text{C}_{66}\text{H}_{132}\text{Cl}_3\text{P}_6\text{Rh}_3$ (1526.7): calcd. C 51.92, H 8.71; found C 51.25, H 8.79.

3. Reaction of Compounds **2 and **3** with Pyridine:** a) A mixture of 115 mg (0.08 mmol) of **2** and 0.1 ml (1.22 mmol) of pyridine was heated for 10 min at ca. 100°C , which led to a change of colour from yellow to off-white. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, 2 ml of pentane was added, and the solution was stored for 12 h at -78°C . A white solid precipitated which was separated from the mother liquor, washed twice with 2-ml portions of pentane (0°C) and dried; yield 82 mg (58%). Although the ^1H - and ^{31}P -NMR spectra confirmed that the isolated sample was pure, no reliable elemental analysis of **4** could be obtained. – b) Analogously as described for a), by using 102 mg (0.07 mmol) of **3** and 0.1 ml (1.22 mmol) of pyridine as the starting materials. White solid; yield 99 mg (80%). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 2150\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (RhH), 2080 cm^{-1} ($\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$). – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 9.51, 7.68\text{--}6.50$ (both m, 18 H, C_6H_3 and NC_5H_5), 2.71 (m, 18 H, PCHCH_3), 1.26 [dvt, $N = 13.0$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.2\text{ Hz}$, 54 H, PCHCH_3], 1.11 [dvt, $N = 13.2$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.3\text{ Hz}$, 54 H, PCHCH_3], -17.64 [dt, $J(\text{RhH}) = 13.8$, $J(\text{PH}) = 13.7\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, RhH]. – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 37.7$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 97.4\text{ Hz}$].

4. Preparation of $\text{trans-}[\text{RhCl}\{\eta^2\text{-Me}_3\text{SiC}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}3,5\text{-}(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_2\}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2]$ (5**):** A solution of 200 mg (0.22 mmol) of **1** in 20 ml of pentane was treated dropwise at -60°C with a solution of 144 mg (0.44 mmol) of 1,3,5- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{C}\equiv\text{CSiMe}_3)_3$ in 3 ml of pentane. After the solution was worked up as described for **2** a bright orange solid was obtained; yield 222 mg (61%); m. p.

66°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 2140\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$)_{uncoord.}, 1795 cm^{-1} ($\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$)_{coord.}. – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.68\text{--}7.38$ (m, 3 H, C_6H_3), 2.28 (m, 6 H, PCHCH_3), 1.29 [dvt, $N = 13.5$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.7\text{ Hz}$, 18 H, PCHCH_3], 1.01 [dvt, $N = 12.8$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.3\text{ Hz}$, 18 H, PCHCH_3], 0.27 (s, 9 H, SiMe_3), 0.17 (s, 18 H, SiMe_3). – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 135.3, 134.8, 125.6, 124.3$ (all s, C_6H_3), $103.7, 95.9$ (both s, $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}_{\text{uncoord.}}$), $86.4, 82.2$ [both d, $J(\text{RhC}) = 13.5\text{ Hz}$, $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}_{\text{coord.}}$], 22.6 (vt, $N = 17.1\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3), $21.0, 19.5$ (both s, PCHCH_3), $1.0, 0.5$ (both s, SiMe_3). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 33.1$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 116.3\text{ Hz}$].

5. Preparation of $[1,3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2\{\text{RhCl}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2\}_2]$ (6**):** Analogously as described for **2**, by using 147 mg (0.16 mmol) of **1** and 20 mg (0.16 mmol) of 1,3- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2$ as starting materials. Orange-yellow solid; yield 128 mg (77%); m. p. 118°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3070\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\equiv\text{CH}$), 1790 cm^{-1} ($\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$). – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.08\text{--}6.42$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 3.73 [d, $J(\text{RhH}) = 2.8\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, $\equiv\text{CH}$], 2.06 (m, 12 H, PCHCH_3), 1.03 [dvt, $N = 13.8$, $J(\text{HH}) = 7.3\text{ Hz}$, 36 H, PCHCH_3], 0.87 [dvt, $N = 13.1$, $J(\text{HH}) = 7.3\text{ Hz}$, 36 H, PCHCH_3]. – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 33.8$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 116.3\text{ Hz}$]. – $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{90}\text{Cl}_2\text{P}_4\text{Rh}_2$ (1043.8): calcd. C 52.93, H 8.69; found C 53.02, H 8.94.

6. Preparation of $[1,2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2\{\text{RhCl}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2\}_2]$ (7**):** Analogously as described for **2**, by using 117 mg (0.13 mmol) of **1** and 16 mg (0.13 mmol) of 1,2- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{C}\equiv\text{CH})_2$ as starting materials. Yellow solid; yield 88 mg (65%); m. p. 135°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3070\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\equiv\text{CH}$), 1790 cm^{-1} ($\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$). – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 8.73\text{--}7.29$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 4.53 [d, $J(\text{RhH}) = 2.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, $\equiv\text{CH}$], 2.25 (m, 12 H, PCHCH_3), 1.21 [dvt, $N = 13.1$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.9\text{ Hz}$, 36 H, PCHCH_3], 1.07 [dvt, $N = 12.6$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.4\text{ Hz}$, 36 H, PCHCH_3]. – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 131.8, 127.4, 127.0$ (all s, C_6H_4), $88.3, 85.2$ [both d, $J(\text{RhC}) = 17.8\text{ Hz}$, $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$], 22.9 (vt, $N = 17.6\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3), $20.5, 20.3$ (both s, PCHCH_3). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 34.0$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 116.3\text{ Hz}$]. – $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{90}\text{Cl}_2\text{P}_4\text{Rh}_2$ (1043.8): calcd. C 52.93, H 8.69; found C 53.13, H 8.63.

7. Preparation of $[1,3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{CH}=\text{C}=\text{RhCl}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2\}_2]$ (8**):** Analogously as described for **3**, by using 134 mg (0.13 mmol) of **6** as starting material. Blue-green solid; yield 102 mg (75%); m. p. 82°C (dec.). – IR (pentane): $\tilde{\nu} = 1620\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\text{C}=\text{C}$). – UV (hexane): $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 580, 446, 282, 240, 224, 210\text{ nm}$. – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.29\text{--}6.54$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.63 (m, 12 H, PCHCH_3), 1.16 [dvt, $N = 13.7$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.7\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3], signal of $\equiv\text{CH}$ protons partially covered by signal of PCHCH_3 protons. – ^{13}C NMR (50.3 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 293.1$ [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 60.0$, $J(\text{PC}) = 15.9\text{ Hz}$, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}$], $135.7, 132.2, 125.6, 122.5$ (all s, C_6H_4), 111.3 [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 15.3$, $J(\text{PC}) = 6.4\text{ Hz}$, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}=\text{C}$], 23.7 (vt, $N = 20.3\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3), 20.1 (s, PCHCH_3). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 43.2$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 133.9\text{ Hz}$]. – $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{90}\text{Cl}_2\text{P}_4\text{Rh}_2$ (1043.8): calcd. C 52.93, H 8.69; found C 53.29, H 9.08.

8. Preparation of $[1,2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{CH}=\text{C}=\text{RhCl}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2\}_2]$ (9**):** Analogously as described for **3**, by using 121 mg (0.12 mmol) of **7** as starting material. Bright green solid; yield 84 mg (67%); m. p. 128°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1620\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\text{C}=\text{C}$). – UV (hexane): $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 574, 436, 280, 240, 222\text{ nm}$. – ^1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.80\text{--}6.48$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.70 (m, 12 H, PCHCH_3), 2.25 [dt, $J(\text{PH}) = 3.1$, $J(\text{RhH}) = 1.0\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, $\equiv\text{CH}$], 1.29 [dvt, $N = 13.0$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.2\text{ Hz}$, 72 H, PCHCH_3]. – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 292.2$ [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 59.6$, $J(\text{PC}) = 15.3\text{ Hz}$, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}$], $132.9, 128.9, 127.1$ (all s, C_6H_4), 110.3 [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 15.5$, $J(\text{PC}) = 5.7\text{ Hz}$, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}=\text{C}$], 24.0 (vt, $N = 20.2\text{ Hz}$, PCHCH_3), 20.3 (s, PCHCH_3). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 43.6$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) =$

133.7 Hz]. – $C_{46}H_{90}Cl_2P_4Rh_2$ (1043.8): calcd. C 52.93, H 8.69; found C 52.72, H 8.29.

9. *Preparation of $[1,2-C_6H_4\{C\equiv CSiMe_3\}_2\{RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (10):* Analogously as described for **2**, by using 157 mg (0.17 mmol) of **1** and 46 mg (0.17 mmol) of $1,2-C_6H_4\{C\equiv CSiMe_3\}_2$ as starting materials. Light orange solid; yield 156 mg (77%); m. p. 112°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1810\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C≡C). – 1H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 9.93\text{--}6.64$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.98 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.33 [dvt, $N = 13.9$, $J(HH) = 7.0$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 1.08 [dvt, $N = 11.7$, $J(HH) = 6.1$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.6 (s, 18 H, $SiMe_3$). – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 138.2$, 132.2, 126.5 (all s, C_6H_4), 109.2 [d, $J(RhC) = 18.8$ Hz, $C\equiv C$], 85.1 [d, $J(RhC) = 12.5$ Hz, $C\equiv C$], 22.9 (vt, $N = 15.6$ Hz, $PCHCH_3$), 21.3, 19.6 (both s, $PCHCH_3$), 0.7 (s, $SiMe_3$). – ^{31}P NMR (162.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 29.5$ [d, $J(RhP) = 117.7$ Hz]. – $C_{52}H_{106}Cl_2P_4Rh_2Si_2$ (1188.2): calcd. C 52.56, H 8.99; found C 52.84, H 9.02.

10. *Preparation of $[1,3-C_6H_4\{C\equiv CSiMe_3\}_2\{RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (11):* Analogously as described for **2**, using 121 mg (0.13 mmol) of **1** and 36 mg (0.13 mmol) of $1,3-C_6H_4\{C\equiv CSiMe_3\}_2$ as starting materials. Light orange solid; yield 114 mg (74%); m. p. 106°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1800\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C≡C). – 1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.54\text{--}6.75$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.40 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.37 [dvt, $N = 13.5$, $J(HH) = 6.8$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 1.10 [dvt, $N = 12.4$, $J(HH) = 6.2$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.46 (s, 18 H, $SiMe_3$). – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 134.2$, 130.8, 126.3, 125.8 (all s, C_6H_4), 105.8 [d, $J(RhC) = 19.8$ Hz, $C\equiv C$], 80.6 [d, $J(RhC) = 16.8$ Hz, $C\equiv C$], 22.5 (vt, $N = 16.0$ Hz, $PCHCH_3$), 21.3, 19.5 (both s, $PCHCH_3$), 0.9 (s, $SiMe_3$). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 33.2$ [d, $J(RhP) = 117.9$ Hz]. – $C_{52}H_{106}Cl_2P_4Rh_2Si_2$ (1188.2): calcd. C 52.56, H 8.99; found C 52.75, H 8.93.

11. *Preparation of $[1,4-C_6H_4\{C\equiv CSiMe_3\}_2\{RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (12):* Analogously as described for **2**, by using 139 mg (0.15 mmol) of **1** and 41 mg (0.15 mmol) of $1,4-C_6H_4\{C\equiv CSiMe_3\}_2$ as starting materials. Yellow solid; yield 128 mg (72%); m. p. 108°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1790\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C≡C). – 1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 8.65\text{--}6.51$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.40 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.38 [dvt, $N = 13.6$, $J(HH) = 6.9$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 1.08 [dvt, $N = 12.8$, $J(HH) = 6.2$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.37 (s, 18 H, $SiMe_3$). – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 132.1$, 122.3 (both s, C_6H_4), 106.4 [d, $J(RhC) = 18.7$ Hz, $C\equiv C$], 80.6 [d, $J(RhC) = 14.4$ Hz, $C\equiv C$], 22.4 (vt, $N = 17.1$ Hz, $PCHCH_3$), 21.0, 19.4 (both s, $PCHCH_3$), 0.8 (s, $SiMe_3$). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 33.1$ [d, $J(RhP) = 116.9$ Hz]. – $C_{52}H_{106}Cl_2P_4Rh_2Si_2$ (1188.2): calcd. C 52.56, H 8.99; found C 52.14, H 8.68.

12. *Preparation of $[1,2-C_6H_4\{C(SiMe_3)=C=RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (13):* a) A solution of 134 mg (0.11 mmol) of **10** in 10 ml of toluene was stirred for 1.5 h at 60°C. A change of colour from orange-red to dark brown occurred. After the solution was cooled to room temperature, it was concentrated to ca. 2 ml in vacuo and then 5 ml of pentane was added. A redbrown solid precipitated which was filtered, washed twice with 2-ml portions of pentane and dried; yield 81 mg (62%). – b) A solution of 106 mg (0.09 mmol) of **10** in 10 ml of benzene was irradiated for 2 h at room temperature with a UV lamp (500-W mercury arc). After the solvent was removed, the remaining residue was recrystallized from pentane (20°C to –60°C). Dark red crystals; yield 69 mg (65%); m. p. 109°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1610\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C=C). – UV (hexane): $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 568$, 440, 280, 240, 222, 206 nm. – 1H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.82\text{--}6.48$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.71 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.27 [dvt, $N = 13.6$, $J(HH) = 6.9$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.87 [dvt, $N = 13.5$, $J(HH) = 6.8$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.25 (s, 18 H, $SiMe_3$). – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 286.4$ [dt, $J(RhC) = 60.3$,

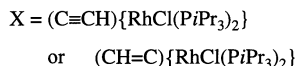
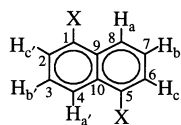
$J(PC) = 15.9$ Hz, $Rh=C$], 131.6, 126.7, 124.7 (all s, C_6H_4), 110.7 [dt, $J(RhC) = 10.5$, $J(PC) = 3.8$ Hz, $Rh=C=C$], 22.6 (vt, $N = 20.1$ Hz, $PCHCH_3$), 21.3 (s, $PCHCH_3$), 0.7 (s, $SiMe_3$). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 43.6$ [d, $J(RhP) = 133.7$ Hz]. – $C_{52}H_{106}Cl_2P_4Rh_2Si_2$ (1188.2): calcd. C 52.56, H 8.99; found C 52.11, H 8.96.

13. *Preparation of $[1,3-C_6H_4\{C(SiMe_3)=C=RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (14):* a) A solution of 132 mg (0.11 mmol) of **11** in 10 ml of toluene was stirred for 2.5 h at 60°C. A change of colour from orange-red to dark brown occurred. After the solution was worked up as described for **13**, a dark red solid was obtained; yield 85 mg (65%). – b) A solution of 118 mg (0.10 mmol) of **11** in 10 ml of benzene was irradiated for 2 h at room temperature with a UV lamp (500-W mercury arc). The work-up procedure was the same as for **13**. Dark red crystals; yield 72 mg (61%); m. p. 81°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1620\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C=C). – UV (hexane): $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 502$, 358, 240, 222, 204 nm. – 1H NMR (200 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.67\text{--}6.72$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.71 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.33 [dvt, $N = 13.4$, $J(HH) = 6.4$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.86 [dvt, $N = 13.2$, $J(HH) = 6.2$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.27 (s, 18 H, $SiMe_3$). – ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 291.3$ [dt, $J(RhC) = 60.2$, $J(PC) = 15.8$ Hz, $Rh=C$], 133.4, 130.2, 126.5, 125.0 (all s, C_6H_4), 110.2 [dt, $J(RhC) = 9.8$, $J(PC) = 3.7$ Hz, $Rh=C=C$], 22.1 (vt, $N = 19.9$ Hz, $PCHCH_3$), 21.1 (s, $PCHCH_3$), 0.9 (s, $SiMe_3$). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 42.5$ [d, $J(RhP) = 135.2$ Hz]. – $C_{52}H_{106}Cl_2P_4Rh_2Si_2$ (1188.2): calcd. C 52.56, H 8.99, Rh 17.32; found C 52.09, H 8.94, Rh 17.15.

14. *Preparation of $[1,4-C_6H_4\{C(SiMe_3)=C=RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (15):* a) A solution of 137 mg (0.12 mmol) of **12** in 10 ml of toluene was stirred for 3 h at 60°C. A change of colour from orange-red to dark brown occurred. After the solution was worked up as described for **13**, a dark brown solid was obtained; yield 91 mg (64%). – b) A solution of 121 mg (0.10 mmol) of **12** in 10 ml of benzene was irradiated for 2 h at room temperature with a UV lamp (500-W mercury arc). After the solvent was removed, the remaining residue was recrystallized from pentane (20°C to –60°C). Dark red crystals; yield 75 mg (63%); m. p. 60°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1620\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C=C). – UV (hexane): $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 536$, 346, 248, 222, 202 nm. – 1H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.62\text{--}6.95$ (m, 4 H, C_6H_4), 2.75 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.31 [dvt, $N = 13.0$, $J(HH) = 6.5$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.85 [dvt, $N = 13.4$, $J(HH) = 6.6$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 0.28 (s, 18 H, $SiMe_3$). – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 43.2$ [d, $J(RhP) = 135.1$ Hz]. – $C_{52}H_{106}Cl_2P_4Rh_2Si_2$ (1188.2): calcd. C 52.56, H 8.99; found C 52.14, H 9.23.

15. *Preparation of $[1,5-C_{10}H_6\{C\equiv CH\}_2\{RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (16):* Analogously as described for **2**, by using 123 mg (0.13 mmol) of **1** and 23 mg (0.13 mmol) of $1,5-C_{10}H_6\{C\equiv CH\}_2$ as starting materials. Red-violet solid; yield 95 mg (67%); m. p. 122°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3070\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\equiv CH$), 1795 (C≡C). – 1H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 9.17$ [d, $J(H_cH_b) = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H, H_c and H_c'], 8.44 [d, $J(H_aH_b) = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H, H_a and H_a'], 7.61 [dd, $J(H_bH_a) = J(H_bH_c) = 1/2 [J(H_bH_a) + J(H_bH_c)] = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H, H_b and H_b'], 4.37 [d, $J(RhH) = 2.4$ Hz, 2 H, $\equiv CH$], 2.34 (m, 12 H, $PCHCH_3$), 1.29 [dvt, $N = 13.2$, $J(HH) = 6.7$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$], 1.28 [dvt, $N = 13.4$, $J(HH) = 6.8$ Hz, 36 H, $PCHCH_3$]. – ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 33.9$ [d, $J(RhP) = 117.7$ Hz]. – $C_{50}H_{92}Cl_2P_4Rh_2$ (1093.9): calcd. C 54.90, H 8.48, Rh 18.82; found C 54.73, H 8.88, Rh 18.48.

16. *Preparation of $[1,5-C_{10}H_6\{CH=C=RhCl(PiPr_3)_2\}_2]$ (17):* Analogously as described for **3**, by using 132 mg (0.12 mmol) of **16** as starting material. Violet solid; yield 96 mg (73%); m. p. 196°C (dec.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 1620\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (C=C). – 1H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 7.82$ [dd, $J(H_bH_a) = J(H_bH_c) = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H, H_b and

Figure 3. Numbering scheme in **16** and **17** for NMR assignments

H_{b}' , 7.11 [d, $J(\text{HH}_{\text{b}}) = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H, H_{a} or H_{c}], 7.01 [d, $J(\text{HH}_{\text{b}}) = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H, H_{a} or H_{c}], 2.72 (m, 12 H, PCHCH_3), 2.27 [t, $J(\text{PH}) = 3.2$ Hz, 2 H, $=\text{CH}$], 1.28 [dvt, $N = 13.6$, $J(\text{HH}) = 6.9$ Hz, 72 H, PCHCH_3]. — ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 137.8$ (s, C^1 and C^5), 130.3 (s, C^9 and C^{10}), 129.3, 128.5, 125.6 (all s, C^2 and C^6 , C^3 and C^7 , C^4 and C^8), 107.6 [dt, $J(\text{RhC}) = 15.3$, $J(\text{PC}) = 5.8$ Hz, $\text{Rh}=\text{C}=\text{C}$], 24.1 (dvt, $N = 20.0$ Hz, PCHCH_3), 20.4 (s, PCHCH_3), signal of $\text{Rh}=\text{C}$ could not be observed. — ^{31}P NMR (81.0 MHz, C_6D_6): $\delta = 43.4$ [d, $J(\text{RhP}) = 135.1$ Hz]. — $\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{92}\text{Cl}_2\text{P}_4\text{Rh}_2$ (1093.9): calcd. C 54.90, H 8.48, Rh 18.82; found C 54.51, H 8.30, Rh 19.17.

17. Determination of the X-ray Crystal Structure of 3^[14]: Single crystals were grown upon cooling of a saturated solution of **3** in acetone from 50°C to 25°C. Crystal data (from 25 reflections, $10^\circ < \Theta < 15^\circ$): monoclinic; space group $P2_1/c$ (No. 14); $a = 29.729(5)$, $b = 11.2733(9)$, $c = 26.579(5)$ Å, $\beta = 114.406(8)^\circ$; $V = 8112(2)$ Å³, $Z = 4$; $d_{\text{calcd.}} = 1.250$ g cm⁻³; $\mu(\text{Mo}-K_{\alpha}) = 0.853$ mm⁻¹; crystal size $0.72 \times 0.44 \times 0.40$ mm; Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer, Mo- K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), graphite monochromator, zirconium filter (factor 16.4); $T = 173(2)$ K; ω -2 θ scan, max. $2\theta = 48^\circ$; 13712 reflections measured, 12400 independent ($R_{\text{int.}} = 0.0395$), 8211 with $I > 2\sigma(I)$. Intensity data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and an empirical absorption correction (Ψ scan method) was applied (min. transmission 82.49%). The structure was solved by direct methods (SHELXS-86)^[15]. Atomic coordinates and the anisotropic thermal parameters of non-hydrogen atoms were refined by full-matrix least squares on F^2 (SHELXL-93)^[16]. The positions of all hydrogen atoms except H(2), H(4), H(6), H(71), H(73), and H(75) were calculated according to ideal geometry and were refined by using the riding method. The positions of H(2), H(4), H(6), H(71), H(73), and H(75) could be located in a final difference Fourier synthesis and refined without restrictions. Conventional $R = 0.0505$ [for 8211 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$], and weighted $wR_2 = 0.1218$ for all 12400 located reflections; reflection/parameter ratio 16.2; residual electron density $+0.869/-0.842$ e Å⁻³.

18. Determination of the X-ray Crystal Structure of 17^[14]: Single crystals were grown upon cooling of a saturated solution of **17** in toluene from 80°C to 25°C. Crystal data (from 25 reflections, $10^\circ < \Theta < 15^\circ$): triclinic; space group $P\bar{1}$ (No. 2); $a = 8.843(2)$, $b = 12.093(3)$, $c = 15.496(3)$ Å, $\alpha = 107.45(1)$, $\beta = 96.65(1)$, $\gamma = 94.51(1)^\circ$; $V = 1559.1(6)$ Å³, $Z = 2$; $d_{\text{calcd.}} = 1.267$ g cm⁻³; $\mu(\text{Mo}-K_{\alpha}) = 0.744$ mm⁻¹; crystal size $0.2 \times 0.3 \times 0.45$ mm; Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer, Mo- K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.7093$ Å), graphite monochromator, zirconium filter (factor 15.4); $T = 293(2)$ K; ω - 2θ

scan, max. $2\theta = 60^\circ$; 6930 reflections measured, 6500 independent ($R_{\text{int.}} = 0.0243$), 4675 with $I > 2\sigma(I)$. Intensity data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. The structure was solved by direct methods (SHELXS-86)^[15]. Atomic coordinates and the anisotropic thermal parameters of non-hydrogen atoms were refined by full-matrix least squares on F^2 (SHELXL-93)^[16]. The positions of all hydrogen atoms were calculated according to ideal geometry and were refined by using the riding method. One half of multi-disordered toluene is present in the asymmetric unit. Though two alternative positions were found and refined anisotropically (with occupation factor of 0.5 each), bond lengths and angles within this molecule could not be refined properly. Conventional $R = 0.0775$ [for 4675 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$], and weighted $wR_2 = 0.4229$ for all 6500 located reflections; reflection/parameter ratio 16.2; residual electron density $+1.473/-0.860$ e Å⁻³.

☆ Dedicated to Professor Heinrich Nöth on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

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