# The coordination of functionalised diphosphines to rhodium. Reactions with $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]$ to give binuclear complexes. Crystal structure of cis-$\left[\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})\}_{2}\left[\mu-\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{NS}\right)_{2} \mathrm{PCH}_{2} \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~S}\right)_{2}\right\rangle_{2}\right] \cdot 2 \mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}$ 

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#### Abstract

Treatment of $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]$ with the functionalised diphosphines $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{SMe}-2\right)_{2} \mathrm{PCH}_{2} \mathrm{PCC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ -$\mathrm{SMe}-2)_{2}$ (mtppm) and $\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{NS}\right)_{2} \mathrm{PCH}_{2} \mathrm{P}_{\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{NS}\right)_{2}}$ (dbtpm) gives the binuclear complexes [ClRh $(\mu$ -$\left.\mathrm{COX}(\mu-\mathrm{mtppm})_{2} \mathrm{Rh}(\mathrm{CO})\right] \mathrm{Cl}(\mathrm{A})$ and $c i s-\left[\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})\}_{2}(\mu-\mathrm{dbtpm})_{2}\right]$ (B) respectively. The structure of B has been confirmed by an $X$-ray structure determination which shows the essentially square-planar rhodium atoms to be ligated by a terminal chloride, a terminal carbonyl trans to the chloride, and a phosphorus from each of two bridging dbtpm ligands; the planes about the two Rh atoms are $13^{\circ}$ from being eclipsed.


## Introduction

We have recently described a series of functionalised diphosphines, prepared in order to explore the possibility of synthesising multinuclear complexes with mixed $\mathbf{P}-\mathbf{X}(X=N, S, O$, etc.) ligation [1]. We have shown that with ligands such as $\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{NS}\right)_{2} \mathrm{PCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{NS}\right)_{2}$ (dbtpe) and ( $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{SMe}-2\right)_{2} \mathrm{PCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{P}$ $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{SMe}-2\right)_{2}$ (mtppe) mixed ligation does occur in binuclear complexes of rhodium e.g. $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{N}$ in $\left[\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{dbtpe})\}_{2}\right]^{2+}(\mathrm{C})[1]$. In C , the $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{CH}_{2}-\mathrm{CH}_{2}-\mathrm{P}$ linkage allows sufficient flexibility for $\mathbf{P}-\mathbf{P}$ chelation at each rhodium, with additional $\mathbf{P}-\mathbf{N}$ ligation between rhodiums. We were interested to see what effect reducing the $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}$ linkage to $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{CH}_{2}-\mathrm{P}$ would have, and we found that the dominant linkage is then $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}$ bridging between rhodiums to give binuclear complexes as described below.

## Preparation and structure of binuclear complexes

Complexes were obtained by treatment of $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right]_{2}\right]$ with the diphosphines in tetrahydrofuran (THF). Reaction of mtppm proceeded as shown in reaction 1 to give the red-brown binuclear complex $A$ which is a $1: 1$ electrolyte in $\mathbf{C H}_{2} \mathbf{C l}_{2}$, and


Fig. $1 .{ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right)$ NMR spectrum of $\left[\mathrm{Rh}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}(\mu-\mathrm{CO})(\mathrm{CO})(\mu \text {-mtppm })_{2}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$ : (a) real spectrum; (b) simulated spectrum.
is formulated as shown in reaction (1) by analysis and on the following spectroscopic evidence.

A has two CO bands in its IR spectrum at 2000 and $1750 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$, consistent with terminal and bridging carbonyls respectively [2].

Its ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR spectrum at 90 MHz shows the splitting in Fig. 1, indicating an asymmetrical species which analyses as an $\mathrm{AA}^{\prime} \mathrm{BB}^{\prime} \mathrm{XY}$ system, where $\mathrm{AA}^{\prime} \mathrm{BB}^{\prime}={ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ and $X Y={ }^{103} \mathrm{Rh}$. The spectrum has been simulated very closely as shown using the parameters $J(\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{P} 4)=J(\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{P} 3)=0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \quad J(\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{P} 3)=J(\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{P} 4)=-62.32 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $J(\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{P} 2)=J(\mathrm{P} 3-\mathrm{P} 4)=1.73 \mathrm{~Hz}, J(\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{Rh} 1)=J(\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{Rh} 1)=98.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J(\mathrm{P} 3-\mathrm{Rh} 2)=$ $J(\mathrm{P} 4-\mathrm{Rh} 2)=124.91 \mathrm{~Hz}, \quad J(\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{Rh} 2)=J(\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{Rh} 2)=-4.05 \mathrm{~Hz}, \quad J(\mathrm{P} 3-\mathrm{Rh} 1)=$ $J(\mathrm{P} 4-\mathrm{Rh} 1)=-4.24 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

Reaction of dbtpm with $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]$ in THF gave a deep red solution from which red crystals of $B$ were obtained. They are stable in the solid state, but gradually lose their brightness due to loss of solvent of crystallisation. The IR spectrum of B showed two CO bands at 1990 and $1980 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$, consistent with two


Fig. 2. Structure of the Rh complex B in cis-[\{(RhCl(CO) $\left.\}_{2}(\mu \text {-dhtpm) })_{2}\right]$-2thf. The atom labelling in each of the benzothiazoyl groups follows the same pattern.
carbonyls in a cis-arrangement as is seen for cis-[\{RhCl(CO) $\left.\}_{2}\left(\mu-\mathrm{Ph}_{2} \mathrm{PCH}_{2} \mathrm{PPh}_{2}\right)_{2}\right]$ (D) which has bands at 1994 and $1972 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ [3]. The ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left[{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right]$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{B}$ shows the phosphorus atoms to be equivalent. Thus the structure appears to be analogous to $\mathbf{D}$; this was confirmed by X-ray crystallography as described below.

(red-brown A)


The molecular structure of cis- $\left\{\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})\}_{2}(\mu-d b t p m)_{2}\right] \cdot 2 \operatorname{thf}(\mathrm{~B})$
The structure of $\mathbf{B}$, determined by X-ray diffraction methods, is shown in Fig. 2. The molecule has a conventional binuclear structure with two approximately linear and parallel $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{CO}$ moieties bridged by two (dbtpm) ligands. The two rhodium atoms are 3.238 (3) $\AA$ apart, which is consistent with no formal metal-metal bond and is in fact significantly longer than the non-bonded $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{Rh}$ separations of $3.152(8)$ and $3.155(4) \AA$ observed in $\left[\mathrm{Rh}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}(\mu-\mathrm{Cl})(\mu-\mathrm{dppm})_{2}\right]\left[\mathrm{BF}_{4}\right][4]$ and
$\left[\mathrm{Rh}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}(\mu-\mathrm{S})(\mu \text {-dppm })_{2}\right]$ [5], respectively. In our structure, each rhodium has a square-planar coordination, with chlorine, carbonyl and two mutually trans phosphorus atoms forming the square. The two planes are rotated $c a .13^{\circ}$ from the

Table 1
Final atomic coordinates (fractional $\times 10^{4}$ ) for the complex B. Esds are in parentheses

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | SOF ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rh(1) | 1832(1) | 1210(1) | 1122(1) |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 1569(5) | 2033(5) | 1749(3) |  |
| C(10) | 1903(15) | 533(14) | 604(10) |  |
| O(10) | 1934(11) | 98(12) | 285(9) |  |
| $\mathrm{Rh}(2)$ | 2729(1) | 2315(1) | 519(1) |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 2959(6) | 3145(5) | 1257(4) |  |
| C(20) | 2673(19) | 1681(18) | -93(13) |  |
| O(20) | 2659(13) | 1344(13) | -433(8) |  |
| C(3a1) | 3162 | 1010 | 2507 | 0.6 |
| S(3a) | 2627(7) | 411(7) | 2802(5) | 0.6 |
| C(3a2) | 2963 | 938 | 3392 | 0.6 |
| C(3a3) | 2894 | 781 | 3909 | 0.6 |
| C(3a4) | 3310 | 1210 | 4373 | 0.6 |
| C(3a5) | 3795 | 1795 | 4320 | 0.6 |
| C(3a6) | 3865 | 1951 | 3803 | 0.6 |
| C(3a7) | 3449 | 1522 | 3339 | 0.6 |
| N(3a) | 3535 | 1550 | 2820 | 0.6 |
| C(3b1) | 3453(16) | -8(15) | 1786(11) |  |
| S(3b) | 4450(5) | -256(6) | 2138(4) |  |
| C(3b2) | 4176(18) | $-1207(18)$ | 1909(12) |  |
| C(3b3) | 4739(22) | - 1771(20) | 2048(15) |  |
| C(3b4) | 4416(24) | -2378(24) | 1845(16) |  |
| C(3b5) | 3625(25) | - 2523(26) | 1519(17) |  |
| C(3b6) | 3077(22) | - 1855(20) | 1394(15) |  |
| C(3b7) | 3397(17) | - 1150(16) | 1607(12) |  |
| N(3b) | 2978(15) | -545(13) | 1547(10) |  |
| $\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{ab})$ | 3050(5) | 913(5) | 1782(3) |  |
| C(3) | 3893(16) | 1539(16) | 1802(11) |  |
| $\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 3892(5) | 1779(5) | 1086(3) |  |
| C(3c1) | 4784(16) | 2345(16) | 1257(11) |  |
| S(3c) | 4863(7) | 3007(8) | 807(6) |  |
| C(3c2) | 5863(20) | 3193(20) | 1241(14) |  |
| C(3c3) | 6355(35) | 3722(35) | 1125(25) |  |
| C(3c4) | 7064(29) | 3736(27) | 1539(19) |  |
| C(3c5) | 7314(29) | 3395(26) | 2028(19) |  |
| C(3c6) | 6751(23) | 2835(22) | 2110(17) |  |
| C(3c7) | 5994(19) | 2794(18) | 1689(13) |  |
| N (3c) | 5420(11) | 2333(14) | 1730(10) |  |
| C(3d1) | 4247(16) | 936(15) | 877(11) |  |
| S(3d) | 5320(5) | 768(6) | 1026(5) |  |
| C(3d2) | 5055(16) | -64(16) | $739(11)$ |  |
| C(3d3) | 5606(24) | -637(21) | 710(15) |  |
| C(3d4) | 5292(23) | -1286(22) | 470(15) |  |
| C(3d5) | 4426(22) | -1389(22) | 315(15) |  |
| C(3d6) | 3877(22) | -884(19) | 329(14) |  |
| C(3d7) | 4221(17) | -211(16) | 587(12) |  |
| N(3d) | 3781(15) | 369(12) | 650(11) |  |

eclipsing position and show cis arrangements of the pairs of chloride and carbonyl ligands.

The molecules are separated by normal van der Waals distances. The THF solvent molecules occupy some of the gaps between these complex molecules;

Table 1 (continued)

| Atom | $\boldsymbol{x}$ | $y$ | $z$ | SOF ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C(4a1) | -201(16) | 1616(16) | 716(11) |  |
| S(4a) | -315(6) | 805(5) | 1031(5) |  |
| C(4a2) | -1270(17) | 1088(16) | 1022(12) |  |
| C(4a3) | -1803(19) | 746(20) | 1226(14) |  |
| C(4a4) | -2510(21) | 1108(19) | 1213(14) |  |
| C(4a5) | -2662(21) | 1798(19) | 997(14) |  |
| C(4a6) | -2134(22) | 2170(23) | 776(15) |  |
| C(4a7) | -1407(16) | 1794(16) | 799 (11) |  |
| N(4a) | -784(15) | 2088(14) | $620(12)$ |  |
| C(4b1) | 274(17) | 1350(16) | -201(11) |  |
| S(4b) | -752(5) | 1179(6) | -561(4) |  |
| C(4b2) | - 503(19) | 988(18) | - 1136(13) |  |
| C(4b3) | -979(20) | $769(17)$ | -1664(13) |  |
| C(4b4) | -678(20) | 649(19) | -2078(14) |  |
| C(4b5) | 125(18) | 725(17) | -1966(13) |  |
| C(4b6) | 677(18) | 975(15) | - 1466(11) |  |
| C(4b7) | 319(17) | 1098(16) | -1046(12) |  |
| N(4b) | 750(14) | 1304(12) | -508(10) |  |
| $\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{ab})$ | 682(4) | 1702(4) | 507(3) |  |
| C(4) | 753(16) | 2686(15) | 400(12) |  |
| P(4cd) | 1529(5) | 2930(5) | 100(3) |  |
| C(4c1) | 1611(17) | 3958(14) | 197(12) |  |
| S(4c) | 937(9) | 4415(8) | 410(7) |  |
| C(4c2) | 1380(22) | 5273(20) | 354(16) |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(4 \mathrm{c} 3)$ | 1271(23) | 6014(19) | 472(21) |  |
| C(4c4) | 1666(40) | 6440(23) | 466(30) |  |
| C(4c5) | 2221(45) | 6485(27) | 267(19) |  |
| C(4c6) | 2502(33) | 5677(25) | 142(20) |  |
| C(4c7) | 2001(28) | 5090(20) | 175(15) |  |
| N(4c) | 2165(23) | 4354(15) | 73(14) |  |
| C(4d1) | 992(16) | 2931(15) | -649(11) |  |
| S(4d) | 1506(5) | 2838(5) | -1113(3) |  |
| C(4d2) | 587(18) | 2871(18) | - 1664(13) |  |
| C(4d3) | 471(24) | 2896(22) | - 2218(16) |  |
| C(4d4) | -277(26) | 2981(24) | -2547(20) |  |
| C(4d5) | -904(27) | 2985(23) | -2383(18) |  |
| C(4d6) | -788(21) | 3021(19) | - 1821(14) |  |
| C(4d7) | O(18) | 3015(17) | - 1442(12) |  |
| N(4d) | 175(14) | 2964(12) | -874(9) |  |
| C(3x1) | 3259 | 971 | 2537 | 0.4 |
| S(3x) | 2486(11) | 771(10) | 2814(7) | 0.4 |
| C(3x2) | 3205 | 866 | 3462 | 0.4 |
| C(3x3) | 3099 | 796 | 3977 | 0.4 |
| $\mathrm{C}(3 \times 4)$ | 3755 | 915 | 4468 | 0.4 |
| O(3x5) | 4515 | 1105 | 4444 | 0.4 |
| $\mathrm{C}(3 \times 6)$ | 4621 | 1176 | 3928 | 0.4 |
| C(3x7) | 3965 | 1056 | 3437 | 0.4 |
| N(3x) | 3967 | 1113 | 2898 | 0.4 |

Table 1 (continued)

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | SOF $^{a}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| THF solvent molecules |  |  |  |  |
| C(50) | $1186(16)$ | $-435(16)$ | $3471(8)$ |  |
| C(51) | 662 | 172 | 3525 |  |
| C(52) | -138 | -148 | 3504 |  |
| C(53) | -42 | -963 | 3521 |  |
| C(54) | 804 | -1133 | 3546 |  |
| C(60) | $5681(39)$ | $899(44)$ | $3684(29)$ | 0.25 |
| C(61) | 5430 | 818 | 4187 | 0.25 |
| C(62) | 5330 | 11 | 4274 | 0.25 |
| C(63) | 5378 | -378 | 3763 | 0.25 |
| C(64) | 5764 | 144 | 3470 | 0.25 |
| C(70) | $3282(76)$ | $4855(69)$ | $2582(43)$ | 0.25 |
| C(71) | 2442 | 5101 | 2250 | 0.25 |
| C(72) | 1862 | 4568 | 2367 | 0.25 |
| C(73) | 2340 | 3886 | 2592 | 0.25 |
| C(74) | 3217 | 4092 | 2786 | 0.25 |
| C(75) | $2666(31)$ | $4757(36)$ | $2780(21)$ | 0.5 |
| C(76) | 2282 | 4266 | 3088 | 0.5 |
| C(77) | 2461 | 3489 | 2983 | 0.5 |
| C(78) | 3142 | 3522 | 2758 | 0.5 |
| C(79) | 3055 | 4267 | 2478 | 0.5 |

${ }^{a}$ SOF $=$ Site occupancy factor, if different from 1.0.

Table 2
Selected bond dimensions in B. Lengths are in ångstrøms, angles in degrees. Esds are in parentheses

| In the coordination spheres of the rhodium atoms |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{R h ( 1 )} \cdots \mathbf{R h}(2)$ | 3.238(3) |  |  |
| Rh(1)-Cl(1) | 2.347(9) | $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 2.337(10) |
| Rh(1)-C(10) | 1.838(25) | $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 1.92 (3) |
| $\mathbf{R h ( 1 ) - P ( 3 a b ) ~}$ | 2.282(8) | $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})$ | $2.210(8)$ |
| $\mathbf{R h ( 1 ) - P ( 4 a b ) ~}$ | $2.267(8)$ | $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 2.292(8) |
| $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 99.7(2) | $\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 89.7(2) |
| $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 84.9(8) | $\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 96.8(10) |
| $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{ab})$ | 90.9(2) | $\mathbf{R h}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 84.6(2) |
| $\mathbf{R h ( 2 ) - R h ( 1 ) - P ( 4 a b ) ~}$ | 83.4(2) | $\mathbf{R h}(1)-\mathbf{R h}(2)-\mathbf{P}(4 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 90.6(2) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 172.8(8) | $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 172.4(10) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{ab})$ | 89.9(3) | $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 83.8(3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathbf{R h}(1)-\mathbf{P}(4 \mathrm{ab})$ | 83.5(3) | $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 86.5(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{ab})$ | 95.6(8) | $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 92.8(10) |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{ab})$ | 91.6(8) | $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 97.4(10) |
| $\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{ab})-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{ab})$ | 170.4(3) | $\mathbf{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 169.2(3) |
| In the carbonyl ligands |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{O}(10)$ | 1.15(3) | $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{O}(20)$ | 1.06(4) |
| $\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{O}(10)$ | 178.3(23) | $\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{O}(20)$ | 177.9(29) |
| Torsion angles about the $R$ h $\cdots$ Rh vector |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 17.6(3) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 8.1(13) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{ab})-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(3 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 11.5(3) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{ab})-\mathrm{Rh}(1)-\mathrm{Rh}(2)-\mathrm{P}(4 \mathrm{~cd})$ | 13.3(3) |  |  |

some THF sites are partially occupied, with occupancy depending for example on the orientation arrangement of the disordered benzothiazoyl groups of $S(3 a) / S(3 x)$ (see Experimental and Table 1). The poor resolution in these regions and in some of the other benzothiazoyl groups does not allow a more critical analysis of the molecular dimensions and geometry of the complex.

Atomic coordinates and selected molecular dimensions are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

## Experimental

All manipulations were carried out under pure dinitrogen by standard vacuum, Schlenk, and glove-box techniques. Solvents were dried and distilled under dinitrogen before use. NMR spectra were measured using a Bruker WP80 instrument and IR spectra (Nujol mulls) using Perkin-Elmer 598 or 883 spectrometers. Conductivities were obtained using a conductivity bridge (Portland Electronics). Microanalyses were by Mr. C.J. Macdonald of the Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory or Ms. K. Plowman of the University of Sussex. [ $\left.\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]$ was prepared by a published procedure [6].

Reaction of mtppm with $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]$. A mixture of $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right](0.11 \mathrm{~g}$, 0.28 mmol ) and mtppm ( $0.33 \mathrm{~g}, 0.58 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in THF ( 25 ml ) was stirred at room temperature for 24 h . The red-brown solid which scparated was filtered off, washed with THF ( 10 ml ) then ether ( $2 \times 10 \mathrm{ml}$ ) and dried under vacuum. The product was identified as $\left[\mathrm{ClRh}(\mu-\mathrm{CO})(\mu-\mathrm{mtppm})_{2} \mathrm{Rh}(\mathrm{CO})\right] \mathrm{Cl}(\mathrm{A})$ (Yield 0.2 g , $49 \%$ ). Anal. Found: C, 48.9; H, 4.1. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{60} \mathrm{H}_{60} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{P}_{4} \mathrm{Rh}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{8}$ : C, 49.0; H, 4.1. IR ( $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2000, 1750.

Reaction of dbtpm with $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right]$. A mixture of $\left[\left\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})_{2}\right\}_{2}\right](0.12 \mathrm{~g}$, 0.31 mmol ) and dbtpm ( $0.38 \mathrm{~g}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in THF ( 25 ml ), was stirred at room temperature. A clear red solution was obtained. This was stirred for 24 h , then filtered from the small amount of solid. Hexane was added slowly with stirring at $40^{\circ}$ until the solid began to separate, then the solution was filtered and the filtrate kept at room temperature for 3 days. The red crystals which precipitated were filtered off and dried under vacuum (the crystals were used without drying for the the X-ray study. The product was identified as $c i s-\left[\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})\}_{2}(\mu-\mathrm{dbtpm})_{2}\right] \cdot 2$ thf, (yield $0.35 \mathrm{~g}, 66.6 \%$ ). Anal. Found: $\mathrm{C}, 48.2 ; \mathrm{H}, 3.2 ; \mathrm{N}, 6.5$. Calc. for $\mathrm{C}_{60} \mathrm{H}_{36} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{P}_{4} \mathrm{Rh}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{8} \cdot 2 \mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}: \mathrm{C}, 48.0 ; \mathrm{H}, 3.1: \mathrm{N}, 6.6$. IR ( $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1990, 1980.

Crystal structure analysis of cis- $\left[\{\mathrm{RhCl}(\mathrm{CO})\}_{2}(\mu-d b t p m)_{2}\right] \cdot 2 t h f$. Crystal data: $\mathrm{C}_{60} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{P}_{4} \mathrm{Rh}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{8} \cdot 2 \mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}, M=1702.3$, monoclinic, space group $\mathrm{P} 2_{1} / c$, $a=17.469(5), b=18.156(7), c=25.517$ (7) $\AA, \beta=109.99(3), U=7605.1 \AA^{3}, Z=4$, $D_{\mathrm{c}}=1.487 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}, F(000)=3440, \mu\left(\mathrm{Mo}-K_{\alpha}\right)=8.4 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}, \lambda\left(\mathrm{Mo}-K_{\bar{\alpha}}\right)=0.71069 \AA$.

The red, almost rectangular plate crystals lose solvent rapidly, so were sealed in capillary tubes. After photographic examination, one was mounted on an EnrafNonius CAD4 diffractometer (with monochromated radiation) for measurement of accurate cell dimensions (from the settings of 25 centred reflections having $\theta$ ca. $10.5^{\circ}$ ) and diffraction intensities (to $\theta_{\max }=20^{\circ}$, at which level there were few observed reflections). During processing of the data, corrections were made for Lorentz-polarisation effects, absorption (from $\Psi$-scan measurements), and for negative intensities (by Bayesian statistics). 7043 independent reflections were read into the shelx program [7], where the structure was determined by the heavy atom method. During the refinement process, poor dimensions and high thermal param-
eters in one benzothiazole group indicated disorder of the group in two orientations; the two systems were included as rigid groups with dimensions taken from the mean values of three of the best-behaving benzothiazole groups in the molecule. Final molecular dimensions and thermal parameters suggest that there is considerable thermal motion or possibly further disorder in some of the other benzothiazole groups.

Two molecules of the solvent, THF, are spread over four sites in the asymmetric unit. These molecules, with site occupancies of $0.25-1.0$, were each refined as rigid, planar groups, and the resolution of these molecules is not wholly satisfactory.

The final cycles of refinement were by block-diagonal least-squares methods [8], concluding at $R=0.135$ and $R_{\mathrm{w}}=0.141$ [7] for 4564 reflections (those having $I \geqslant \sigma_{I}$ ) weighted equally. For the 2523 reflections with $I \geqslant 2 \sigma_{I}$, a structure factor calculation on the final atomic parameters gave $R=0.077, R_{\mathrm{w}}=0.090$, with equal weights. Hydrogen atoms were included in idealised positions for six of the benzothiazole groups and in the methylene bridges. The C -atoms of another benzothiazole group were refined anisotropically to try to take account of the considerable vibration or disorder in that group. All other C-atoms were refined isotropically, and all heavier atoms (except the N atoms in the disordered benzothiazole group) were allowed anisotropic thermal parameters.

In the final difference map, all the major peaks ( $0.5-0.8 \mathrm{e}_{\AA^{-3}}$ ) are in the region of the THF molecules.

Scattering factors for neutral atoms were from ref. 9. Computer programs used have been noted above and in Table 4 of reference [10], and were run on the AFRC's VAX 11/750 computer at IHR-Glasshouse Crops Research Institute (Littlehampton).

Lists of H -atom coordinates, thermal parameters, complete bond lengths and angles, and structure factors are available from the authors.

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