these novel SiCAC reactions have high synthetic potential, further investigations on the mechanism, organometallic chemistry, and applications to organic syntheses are actively underway.

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Supplementary Material Available: Identification data for 7, 9, 10, 11, and 13, including 2D NMR spectra, i.e., COSY and HETCOR, for 10 and 11 (7 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

(1,5-Cyclooctadiene)bis(3,6-di-tert-butylcatecholato)iridium(IV). An Organometallic Aryl Oxide Complex with a Charge-Transfer Transition at Unusually Low Energy

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Many of the interesting and important features of transition metal complexes containing catecholate and semiquinone ligands are related to the similarity in energy between quinone π^* -orbitals and the metal d-levels. In some cases this property is responsible for intense, low-energy charge-transfer transitions that sometimes extend well into the near-infrared NIR region.¹ Characterization on the "bending crystals" of Rh(CO)₂(3,6-di-tert-butylsemiquinone) has shown that a low-energy metal-ligand chargetransfer transition associated with stacked oligomers of complex units contributes to unique photomechanical properties in the solid state.² The higher d-orbital energy of iridium may result in charge-transfer transitions shifted further to lower energy, resulting in compounds with high optical sensitivity in the infrared. We now describe an unusual product obtained by the addition of cobaltocenium 3,6-di-tert-butylsemiquinone to [Ir(1,5-COD)Cl]₂.

The anticipated product of the synthetic procedure was Ir-(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBSQ).³ However, crystallographic characterization on the dark red complex obtained from this reaction showed that the product was actually $Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)_2$ with the structure shown in Figure 1.⁴ The Ir(IV) formulation



Figure 1. View showing the structure of Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)₂. A crystallographic 2-fold axis passes between the olefin groups and relates the two catecholate ligands. Selected bond lengths (Å): Ir-O1 2.014 (7), Ir-O2 2.014 (6), Ir-C15 2.207 (11), Ir-C18 2.192 (9), C1-O1 1.352 (13), C2-O2 1.318 (12), C15-C18' 1.413 (17).

for the complex in the solid state is consistent with the structural features of the quinone ligands. Ring C-C lengths reflect the expected aromatic structure of a catecholate ligand, and the C-O lengths are of values that are longer than semiguinone lengths.⁵ In particular, the length to O1 is 1.35 (1) Å, while the length to O2, trans to the COD olefin bond, is 1.32 (1) Å. In toluene solution at room temperature, the S = 1/2 complex molecule shows a broad EPR resonance centered about a g-value of 1.986 which is approximately 200 G in width. In frozen toluene at 77 K, the signal splits to give a slightly rhombic spectrum with components $g_1 = 1.948$, $g_2 = 1.952$, and $g_3 = 2.006$. No hyperfine structure is observed for either the isotropic or anisotropic spectrum. Electrochemical characterization on Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)₂ shows that the complex undergoes reversible one-electron oxidation and reduction reactions.⁶ Couples are closely spaced at potentials of -0.092 V and -0.636 V (vs Fc⁺/Fc), respectively, and the complex may be chemically oxidized with $Ag(PF_6)$ and reduced with cobaltocene.

Figure 2 shows the infrared spectrum obtained for the complex.⁷ The sharp bands at lower energy are the usual ligand vibrations, but the broad, intense transition centered near 4200 cm⁻¹ is an electronic absorption. The band appears unsymmetrical in the figure due to moisture in the KBr matrix; in toluene solution at room temperature it appears as a single symmetrical transition at 2340 nm with a molar extinction coefficient of 5100 M^{-1} cm⁻¹. Assignment of this transition is not unambiguous. It may simply be a metal-catecholate charge-transfer transition,⁸ but other possibilities exist. Intense, low-energy interligand charge-transfer transitions commonly occur for members of the ML₂(3,5-DBCat)(3,5-DBCat) series, with M = Ru and Os and L_2 = bpy, 2PPh₃, and 2CO.^{9,10} This requires significant mixing with an Ir(III) charge-localized form of the complex, Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBSQ)(3,6-DBCat). The electrochemistry supports this in ap-

⁽⁸⁾ The intramolecular trapping of a β -silylethenyl-nickel species by an alkyne moiety in 1,7-octadiyne and related systems, giving the corresponding carbocyclization product, was reported by Tamao et al. See: Tamao, K.; Kobayashi, K.; Ito, Y. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1989, 111, 6478.

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(3) Synthesis of Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)₂: [Ir(1,5-COD)Cl]₂ (0.153 g,
(3) Synthesis of Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)₂: [Ir(1,5-COD)Cl]₂ (0.153 g,
(2) mmol) dissolved in 5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ was added to a solution of [Co-(Cp)₂](3,6-DBSQ) prepared by combining cobaltocene (0.091 g, 0.48 mmol) and 3,6-di-tert-butyl-1,2-benzoquinone (0.10 g, 0.47 mmol) in 10 mL of CH₂Cl₂. The mixture became dark red, and a brown precipitate separated from the solution. The precipitate was collected by filtration, and the red filtrate was slowly evaporated under a flow of N2. Dark red crystals of $Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)_2$ were obtained from the evaporated filtrate in yields that have varied from 30% to 50%. The brown precipitate has not yet been

identified. Details of the reaction and products will be published separately. (4) X-ray analysis of Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)₂: tetragonal, space group $P4_{3}2_{1}2_{2}$; a = 15.007 (2) Å, c = 15.234 (4) Å, V = 3431 (1) Å³, Z = 4; R = 0.040 for 2261 unique observed reflections. Details of the structure determination are given in the supplementary material.

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⁽⁶⁾ Cyclic voltammograms were recorded in acetonitrile solution using tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate as electrolyte. An Ag/Ag⁺ reference electrode was used, and the cobaltocenium/cobaltocene couple was used as an internal standard $(-1.318 \text{ V vs } \text{Fc}^+/\text{Fc})$.

⁽⁷⁾ IR (KBr) v (between 1000 and 1600 cm⁻¹): 1552 (s), 1480 (m), 1466 (m), 1402 (s), 1384 (m), 1353 (m), 1307 (s), 1284 (s), 1212 (m), 1151 (s) cm⁻¹. UV-vis-NIR (toluene): 292 (9200 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), 475 (2600), 513 (2600), 564 (1800), 854 (460), 975 (390), 1304 (480), 2340 (5100) nm.

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Figure 2. Infrared spectrum of Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)₂ recorded as a KBr pellet showing the normal ligand vibrational bands at low energy and an electronic transition centered at 4200 cm⁻¹. Band asymmetry is due to moisture in the KBr; a single symmetrical transition is observed for the complex in solution.

pearing as two quinone ligand-based redox couples that most closely resemble the couples of Fe(bpy)(3,6-DBSQ)(3,6-DBCat).¹¹ Structural features of the molecule, with the anisotropy and absence of ligand proton hyperfine coupling of the EPR spectrum, show that the electronic description is not purely that of the Ir(III) form,² however.

Interligand charge transfer between catecholate donor and olefin acceptor orbitals exists as a third possibility for the low-energy transition.¹² Two features of the complex may be indirectly related to this assignment. Synergistic interligand π donor-acceptor bonding would remove charge from the catecholate C-O antibonding orbital. This may contribute to the shorter C-O length for oxygen atoms bonded trans to Ir-olefin bonds and the relatively long C-C bonds for the coordinated olefin groups. Second, it was of interest to investigate the counterligand dependence of the low-energy transition. Attempts to replace the 1,5-COD ligand with CO, DIPHOS, and 2,2'-bipyridine have all failed.¹³ The 1,5-COD ligand is tightly bound to the high oxidation state metal, although the Ir-C lengths to the olefin carbon atoms are not unusually short¹⁴ and the trans Ir-O length is identical to the length at the positions cis to the olefin bonds. This is in contradistinction to the catecholate-nitrosyl bonding in Ir- $(NO)(PPh_3)(Br_4Cat)$ where cooperative trans donor-acceptor coordination resulted in shortening of both trans Ir-N and Ir-O bonds.¹⁵ Whether or not it is responsible for the low-energy electronic transition, interligand bonding between the catecholate and olefin ligands of $Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)_2$ may be an important ligand stabilization effect.

Further studies on coligand bonding effects within the IrL₂- $(Cat)_2$ series will provide more detailed information on the origin

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of this unusual transition.

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Supplementary Material Available: Tables giving crystal data and details of the structure determination, atomic coordinates, anisotropic thermal parameters, hydrogen atom locations, and bond lengths and angles for $Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)_2$ (9 pages); tables of observed and calculated structure factors (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

A Solid-State ²H NMR Relaxation Study of a 12 Base **Pair RNA Duplex**

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In a recent attempt to determine the solution-state structure of a 12 base pair DNA-RNA-DNA chimera ([d(CGCG)r- $(AAUU)d(CGCG)]_2$, Wang et al.¹ found that the nonselective ¹H T_1 relaxation times of the RNA were significantly longer than

⁽¹¹⁾ Fe(bpy)(3,6-DBSQ)(3,6-DBCat) undergoes oxidation at -0.319 V and reduction at -0.831 V (vs Fc⁺/Fc). Both are reversible one-electron processes that will be described in a separate publication. (12) Benedix, R.; Hennig, H.; Kunkely, H.; Vogler, A. Chem. Phys. Lett.

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⁽¹³⁾ In typical experiments, Ir(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat), (0.05 g) was refluxed in toluene for the period of 1 day in the presence of an excess of either 2,2'-bipyridine or 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (DIPHOS) or with CO bubbled through the solution. Electronic spectra obtained on these solutions at the conclusion of the experiment indicated the presence of unreacted Ir-(1,5-COD)(3,6-DBCat)2

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