

Organic Transformations Catalysed by Low-Coordinate m-Terphenyl Complexes

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The use of sterically demanding m-terphenyl ligands allows the isolation of highly unsaturated transition metal complexes which show unusual bonding modes and reactivity [1,2,3,4]. In addition to stoichiometric reactivity towards small molecules, these complexes are efficient precatalysts for the cyclotrimerisation of isocyanates (Figure 1); they exhibit high selectivity and allow the formation of mixed species through cross-coupling reactions [5]. Significantly, we have also demonstrated the catalysis of hydrophosphination reactions that produce mono- (**M**) or diinsertion (**D**) phosphinocarboxamide products selectively (Figure 1) [2]. Diinsertion products **D**, asymmetric phosphorus analogues of biuret, are a new family of derivatised phosphinodicarboxamides.

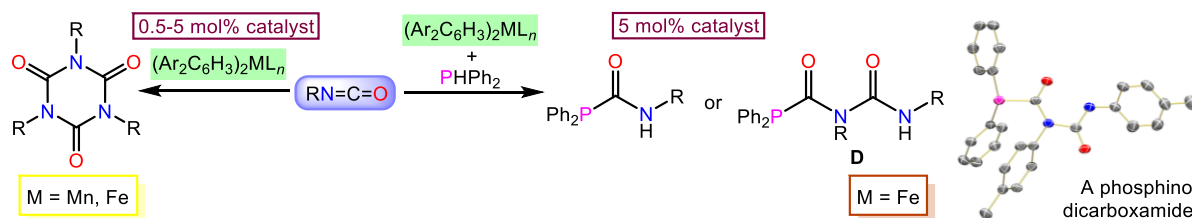


Fig. 1: Isocyanate reactions catalysed with m-terphenyl complexes; Ar = Mes (2,4,6-Me₃C₆H₂), n=0; Tmp (2,4,5-Me₃C₆H₂), L = THF, n=1.

References

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