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### Diphosphirenium Salt: A New Versatile Ligand

Y. Canac<sup>a</sup>; G. Bouhadir<sup>a</sup>; R. Reau<sup>a</sup>; A. Baceiredo<sup>a</sup>; G. Bertr<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination du CNRS, Toulouse Cédex, France

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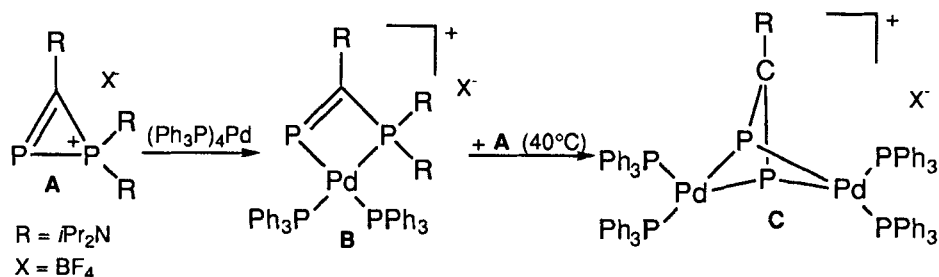
## DIPHOSPHIRENIUM SALT: A NEW VERSATILE LIGAND

Y. CANAC, G. BOUHADIR, R. REAU, A. BACEIREDO and G. BERTRAND\*

Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination du CNRS, 205, route de Narbonne, 31077

Toulouse Cédex (France)

Strained aromatic cyclopropenylium cations are versatile ligands for transition metal complexes:  $\eta^1$ -,  $\eta^2$ - and  $\eta^3$ -coordination modes have been observed. Here we report on the ligand properties of the related diphosphirenium salt **A** [1]. Treatment of a dichloromethane solution of diphosphirenium salt **A** with an equimolar amount of palladium tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) afforded 1,3-diphospha-2-bis(triphenylphosphine)pallada(II)cyclobutene **B** in 70% yield. Exchange of the triphenylphosphine ligands occurs with various phosphines, and the structures of these new diphospha-metallacyclobutenes have been elucidated by NMR and in one case by a single X-ray diffraction study[2].



Surprisingly, when a dichloromethane solution of complex **B** was refluxed overnight in the presence of diphosphirenium salt **A** a new complex **C** was formed. This cationic 1,3-diphospha-2,4-dipallada(II)tricyclo[1.1.1]pentane is the first compound featuring pyramidal  $\mu^2$ -phosphinidene units.

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