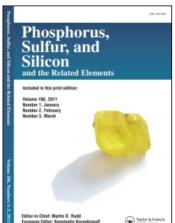
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Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713618290

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To cite this Article Iwasaki, Fujiko , Nishiyama, Hideyuki , Manabe, Noriko , Yasui, Masanori and Matsumura, Noboru(1997) 'Structures and Reaction Mechanism of Novel Metal-Carbene Complexes Derived from Hypervalent Diazadiselenathiapentalenes', Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements, 120: 1, 429 - 430

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/10426509708545582

URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10426509708545582

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STRUCTURES AND REACTION MECHANISM OF NOVEL METAL-CARBENE COMPLEXES DERIVED FROM HYPERVALENT DIAZADISELENATHIAPENTALENES

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Abstract Novel metal-carbene complexes (4) with a metallapentalene framework have been obtained from hypervalent diazadiselenathiapentalenes (3) by treating with Pt(PPh₃)₄, Pd(PPh₃)₄ and RhCl(PPh₃)₅. X-Ray investigations revealed that the central hypervalent sulfur atom in 3 was substituted by a metal atom to form M-Se bonds in the resultant metallapentalene framework.

Novel metal-carbene complexes (2) with a metallapentalene framework have been obtained from hypervalent tetraaza-6a-thiapentalenes (1) by treating with Pt(PPh3)4, Pd(PPh3)4 and RhCl(PPh3)3. X-Ray investigations revealed that the central hypervalent sulfur atom in 1 was substituted by a metal atom and that thioamide groups on one or both sides rotated to form metal-sulfur bonds in the resultant metallapentalene framework.[1,2] From the MO calculations on Frontier electron densities of 1 and the structures of these carbene complexes, we proposed the mechanism of the formation of these metal-carbene complexes as shown in the scheme.[3]

This scheme suggests that a similar carbene complex should be obtained from S-S-S or Se-S-Se hypervalent systems instead of N-S-N hypervalent systems. In fact, metal complexes were obtained from diselenathiapentalenes, 3.

X-ray structure analyses revealed that these complexes were also novel metal-carbene complexes 4 coordinated by Se atoms. The structure of the Pd-complex (4) is shown in Fig. 1. In the complexes (4), the central sulfur atom of 3 is also substituted by the metal atom to form a square planar configuration like that of 2. The four coordination sites are occupied by a tridentate ligand containing a diselenapentalene framework and a PPh3 ligand. The metallapentalene framework is planar. The distances of Pd-Se bonds in the complex (4) are 2.414(1) and 2.436(1) Å. These lengths are longer than Pd-S bonds in 2 by the difference of the covalent radii of Se and S. The lengths of Pd-P (2.335(1) Å) and Pd-C (1.974(5) Å) bonds are similar to those of the corresponding bonds of 2.

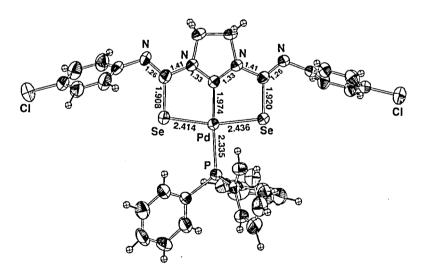


FIGURE 1. Molecular structure the Pd-complex 4

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