First X-Ray Structures of Ethylene Bridged Neutral Dimeric Hexacoordinate Silicon Complexes with Tetradentate Salen-Type Ligands

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Syntheses and structures of two novel "doubledecker" silicon complexes [R-Si(o-O-p-OMe-C₆H₃-C(Ph)=N-(CH₂)₂-N=C(Ph)-C₆H₃-p-OMe-o-O)-CH₂-]₂ (R = Ph, p-tBu-C₆H₄-O) with the silicon atoms hexacoordinated by two salen-type tetradentate $\langle ONNO \rangle$ -chelating ligands are described. Hydrogen bonding between the halves of the bridged complexes as well as with chloroform solvate molecules determines the conformation. Compared with analogous mononuclear silicon complexes these "doubledeckers" show bathochromically shifted Vis-absorption.

Key words: Doubledecker, Hexacoordinate, Hypercoordination, Schiff Base, Silicon