

# Ethynylthioamide Complexes: Synthesis, Reactivity and an Unusual Coupling Reaction with Diethylaminopropyne

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The reaction of  $[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}(\text{THF})]$  with propynethioic acid amides,  $\text{R}-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{C}(=\text{S})\text{NMe}_2$  ( $\text{R} = \text{H}$ ,  $\text{SiMe}_3$ ), yields the thioamide complexes  $[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}-\text{S}=\text{C}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{H}]$  (**1a**) and  $[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}-\text{S}=\text{C}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{SiMe}_3]$  (**1b**). Treatment of solutions of **1a** or **1b** with methyllithium generates, *via* deprotonation or desilylation, the lithium salt  $\text{Li}[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}-\text{S}=\text{C}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{C}\equiv\text{C}]$  (**2**). On filtration over silica, **2** is readily reprotonated. Complex **1a** is inert towards methanol, however, adds diethylamine across the  $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$  bond to give the thioacrylamide complex  $[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}-\text{S}=\text{C}(\text{NMe}_2)\text{C}(\text{H})=\text{C}(\text{H})\text{NMe}_2]$  (**3**). Thiourea displaces the thioamide ligand to give  $[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}-\text{S}=\text{C}(\text{NH}_2)_2]$  (**4**). Complex **1a** reacts with half an equivalent of diethylaminopropyne in a three-component coupling to form the homobinuclear complex  $[(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}-\text{S}=\text{C}(\text{NEt}_2)-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{C}(\text{H})-\text{C}(\text{H})=\text{C}(\text{NMe}_2)-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{C}(\text{NMe}_2)=\text{S}-\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5]$  (**5**) in high yield. The solid state structures of complexes **1a** and **5** were established by X-ray structural analyses.

*Key words:* Thioamide Complexes, Chromium Complexes, Nucleophilic Addition, Coupling Reaction