

# Mesomorphic Donor-Acceptor-substituted 1,4-Distyrylbenzenes

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*Z. Naturforsch.* **2009**, *64b*, 1183–1186; received July 8, 2009

The (*E,E*)-distyrylbenzenes **1a**, **b** with terminal donor-acceptor substitution were prepared by a sequence of four reaction steps including two Wittig-Horner reactions. The products form smectic mesophases, are photostable, and should permit an electric orientation/reorientation, because of their strong dipole character.

*Key words:* Liquid Crystals, Push-Pull Effect, Wittig-Horner Reaction