## Supporting information for

## Exploration of a new building block for the construction of cyano-bridged solvatomagnetic assemblies: [Ni(cyclam)]<sup>3+</sup>

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	1	2
Empirical formula	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>36</sub> CrN <sub>10</sub> NiO <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>36</sub> FeN <sub>10</sub> NiO <sub>6</sub>
Formula weight	575.26	579.11
Temperature / K	120(2)	120(2)
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	<i>C</i> 2/m	<i>C</i> 2/m
a /Å	10.5579(5)	10.2754(3)
b /Å	16.3314(6)	16.2306(4)
c /Å	8.8748(4)	8.8043(3)
α / °	90	90
β / °	112.254(3)	111.265(3)
γ / °	90	90
Volume / Å <sup>3</sup>	1416.26(11)	1368.37(7)
Z	2	2
Density (calc.) / Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1.349	1.406
Absorption coeff. / mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.094	1.066
F(000)	604	608
Crystal size / mm	0.12 x 0.12 x 0.07	0.31 x 0.22 x 0.13
Theta range / °	3.52-24.81	3.53-28.67
Reflections collected	6570	8656
R <sub>int</sub>	0.063	0.037
Independent reflections	1265	1722
Parameters	95	98
GOF on $F^2$	1.077	1.066
	R1 =0.0367	R1 =0.0307
K mulces [1>20(1)]	wR2 =0.0618	wR2 =0.0654
	R1 =0.0585	R1 =0.0462
K mulces (an data)	wR2 =0.0679	wR2 =0.0731

## $Table \ S1. \ Crystallographic \ data \ for \ 1 \ and \ 2$

	1d	2d
Empirical formula	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>29</sub> CrN <sub>10</sub> NiO <sub>2.5</sub>	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>30</sub> FeN <sub>10</sub> NiO <sub>3</sub>
Formula weight	512.15	525.01
Temperature / K	298	298
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub>
a /Å	9.8002(14)	9.8927
b /Å	11.9983(17)	12.1549
c /Å	10.1260(11)	10.1774
α/°	90	90
β / °	102.646(19)	102.013
γ / °	90	90
Volume / $Å^3$	1161.8(3)	1197.0
Ζ	2	2
Rp (Rietveld)	0.1852	
Rwp (Rietveld)	0.1839	

 Table S2. Crystallographic data for 1d and 2d



Figure S1. The Rietveld plot for 1d.



Figure S2. Structure of 1d with atom numbering; thermal spheres at 50% probability.



Figure S3. Thermogravimetric analysis of 1 (left) and 2 (right).



**Figure S4**. PXRD patterns for as synthesised fully hydrated **1**, partly dehydrated **1d** and rehydrated **1dh** in comparison to the pattern generated from the single-crystal structure of **1**.



**Figure S5**. Structure of **2** with atom numbering; thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability; hydrogen atoms on cyclam ring omitted for clarity.



**Figure S6**. Hydrogen bonds in the structure of **1**: detail view with atom numbering (top); view of the net (bottom).



**Figure S7**. Magnetic susceptibility at 1kOe for fully hydrated, partly dehydrated (**d**) and rehydrated (**d**) forms of NiCr and NiFe chains; temperature in logarithmic scale.



**Figure S8**. Field dependence of magnetisation measured at 2 K for fully hydrated, partly dehydrated (**d**) and rehydrated (**d**h) forms of NiCr and NiFe chains; inset in the right graph shows magnetic hysteresis for **2d**.