## Photochemical and Electrochemical Catalytic Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> with NHC-Containing Dicarbonyl Rhenium(I) Bipyridine Complexes

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Figure S1. Lamp spectrum of Osram Parathom 13W white-light LED.



Figure S2. IR spectrum of the dichloromethane extracts of the photocatalytic reaction mixture of 2 after 30-min irradiation. (Due to the complexity, possibly resulted from various ligand dissociations and geometrical photo-isomerizations, these C=O and C=N stretches cannot be unambiguously assigned. The position of C=O and C=N stretches of 2 ( $\blacktriangle$ ) and [Re(CO)(phen)(CNC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Cl-4)<sub>3</sub>]PF<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> (\*) are marked for reference.)

<sup>†</sup>A. W.-Y. Cheung, L. T. L. Lo, C.-C. Ko and S.-M. Yiu, *Inorg. Chem.*, 2011, 50, 4798



Figure S3. Controlled potential electrolysis (E = -1.8 V vs. SCE at a glassy carbon plate S = 1 cm<sup>2</sup>) with 2 0.5 mM (in DMF, LiClO<sub>4</sub> 0.5 M, NBu<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> 0.1 M): current (black trace) and charge (red trace) vs. time.

Procedure for the extracting the rate constant  $k_{cat}$  for catalysis for 2 from CV analysis and from electrolysis current.

a. Determination of  $k_{cat}$  from the foot-of-the wave analysis. The foot of the wave analysis was performed as follows. The current was normalized toward the peak current of the ligand centred wave :

$$i_p^0 = 0.446 F S C_{cat}^0 \sqrt{D_{cat}} \sqrt{\frac{Fv}{RT}}$$

using the following values for the various parameters and constants :

$$F = 96485 \text{ C mol}^{-1}; S = 1 \text{ cm}^2; C_{cat}^0 = 0.5 \text{ x } 10^{-6} \text{ mol cm}^{-3}; D_{cat} = 2.26 \text{ x } 10^{-6} \text{ mol cm}^{-2}; v$$
$$= 0.1 \text{ V s}^{-1}; R = 8.314 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}; T = 298 \text{ K}$$

 $E_{cat}^{0} = -1.735$  V vs SCE (note that the catalyst wave is not fully reversible, leading to an uncertainty of 10 to 20 mV on the  $E_{cat}^{0}$  value).

$$k_{\text{cat}} = k \text{ [CO_2]}$$
 was then determined by plotting  $\frac{i}{i_p^0}$  as a function of   
 $\left\{1 + exp^{[10]}\left[\frac{F(E - E_{cat}^0)}{RT}\right]\right\}^{-1}$  from the slope of the linear part of the curve (

 $2k[CO_2] RT$ 2.24 Fv ), that corresponds to low current values for which secondary phenomena

are minimized.<sup>S1</sup>



Figure S4. Foot-of-the wave analysis for 2 (0.5 mM) from CV in DMF (v = 0.1 V/s, glassy carbon electrode 0.071 cm<sup>2</sup>, 0.23 M CO<sub>2</sub> + 0.5 M MeOH).

b. Determination of  $k_{cat}$  from controlled potential electrolysis.  $k_{cat}$  was derived from the

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electrolysis current *i*, by applying the following equation:<sup>S1</sup>

$$\frac{i}{FS} = \frac{\sqrt{2k[\text{CO}_2]D_{cat}}C_{cat}^0}{1 + exp^{[in]}} \frac{F(E - E_{cat}^0)}{RT}$$

Reference

S1. C. Costentin, M. Robert and J.-M. Savéant, Chem. Soc. Rev., 2013, 42, 423.