#### **Electronic Supplementary Information**

#### Luminescent Dicyanidonitridotechnetium(V) Core with a Tridentate Ligand Coordination Sites

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#### **Experimental Section**

**Materials.** All commercially available reagents were used as received. The isotope <sup>99</sup>Tc was used to synthesize all of the Tc complexes reported in this paper. *Caution:* <sup>99</sup>Tc is a low-energy  $\beta^-$  emitter ( $E_{max}$  = 290 keV) with a half-life of 2.11 × 10<sup>5</sup> y. *n*-(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>)<sub>4</sub>N[TcNCl<sub>4</sub>] was prepared according to literature procedures.<sup>1</sup>

### Synthesis of the Complexes.

**[TcNCl<sub>2</sub>bpa] (1).**  $(n-C_4H_9)_4N[^{99}TcNCl_4]$  (6.1 mg,  $1.2 \times 10^{-2}$  mmol) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>CN, and 0.65 µL of CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution containing bpa (7.2 mg,  $3.6 \times 10^{-2}$  mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was sonicated for several minutes, and then the solution was left for several hours. The brown crystals deposited were collected by filtration. Yield: 4.4 mg (89%). UV-vis/cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\varepsilon$ /M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN: 21200 (800), 26600 (5300), 39400 (8000).

**[TcN(CN)**<sub>2</sub>**bpa] (2).** The complex **1** (2.0 mg, 4.9 x 10<sup>-3</sup> mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>CN, and 3.5 mL of an aqueous solution containing KCN (0.65 mg, 1.0 x 10<sup>-2</sup> mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was sonicated for 5 min and left for several hours. The solution was evaporated to dryness, and then the residue was dissolved in 10 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>CN. Toluene was layered on the solution, and the solution was left for several days. The yellow crystals deposited were collected by filtration. Yield: 0.89 mg (44%). UV-vis/cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\varepsilon$ /M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN: 22800 (320), 30200 (4600), 37200 (2800), 39800 (9300).

**X-ray Crystallography.** Single crystal X-ray data were collected at -103 °C on a Rigaku RAXIS diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo  $K_{\alpha}$  radiation. Cell parameters were retrieved using CrystalClear Software. Diffraction data were collected and processed using CrystalClear. Crystal structures were solved by SHELXT version 2014.<sup>2</sup> Atomic coordinates and thermal parameters of non-hydrogen atoms were calculated by a full-matrix least-squares method

(SHELXL version 2017).<sup>3</sup> Calculations were performed using Crystal Structure 4.2.4.<sup>4</sup> A large residual electron density for **2** results from the limited data quality.

**Physical Measurements.** UV-vis spectra were measured by a JASCO V-550 spectrophotometer. IR spectra were recorded in KBr pellets on a JASCO FTIR-6100 spectrometer. For measurement of emission spectrum, a solid sample was placed between two nonfluorescent glass plates. The corrected emission spectrum was recorded on a multichannel photodetector (Hamamatsu Photonics, PMA-11) at 365 nm (±5 nm) excitation by using a 100 W mercury-xenon lamp (HOYA-SCHOTT HLS 100UM) and an optical band-pass filter (Asahi Spectra).

**DFT Calculations.** DFT calculations were performed with the Amsterdam Density Functional package (ADF 2017.103).<sup>5,6</sup> For geometry optimizations and calculation of frequencies, the initial geometries of [TcNCl<sub>2</sub>(bpa)] and [TcN(CN)<sub>2</sub>(bpa)] were taken from the X-ray structures. Structural optimizations were carried out at the GGA level using PBE, the scalar relativistic ZORA, and the DZ for all atoms with a small frozen core approximation as provided in the ADF basis set library.<sup>7</sup> Calculation of all positive IR frequencies confirmed the existence of the potential minimum. The atomic coordinates of the optimized geometries are listed in Tables S2 – S4. The single point and time dependent DFT calculations of **1** and **2** were performed using the optimized geometries at B3LYP, the scalar relativistic ZORA, and the TZ2P as provided in the ADF basis set library. The calculations for **1** and **2** used the COSMO solvent model for CH<sub>3</sub>CN.<sup>8</sup> In the case of **2**\*, the single point energy calculations was performed using the GGA level using PBE, the scalar relativistic ZORA, and the DZ for all atoms with a small frozen core approximation as provided in the ADF basis set library.

#### References

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	1	2
Formula	$C_{14}H_{16}CI_2N_5Tc$	C <sub>17.5</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>6</sub> Tc
F.W.	424.13	410.28
Space group	P21/c	P 1
a/Å	10.2820(3)	7.3182(3)
b/Å	11.9687(3)	10.7602(4)
c/Å	14.2478(5)	12.5043(5)
α∕deg		66.5421(17)
β/deg	103.6947(8)	87.0938(14)
γ/deg		72.793(2)
V∕/ų	1703.52(9)	860.32(6)
Ζ	4	2
<i>Т/</i> К	170.0	170.0
$ ho_{calc}/gcm^{-3}$	1.646	1.576
µ/mm⁻¹	1.153	0.840
R1	0.0469	0.0795
wR2	0.0958	0.2022
GOF	1.164	1.209

# Table S1. Crystallographic data of [TcNCl2(bpa)] (1) and [TcN(CN)2(bpa)] (2)

	x/Å	y/Å	z/Å
Tc1	1.48575857	2.28461741	1.26347497
Cl1	-0.90084901	2.20389450	1.20151557
Cl2	1.52215185	-0.03237840	1.83812249
N1	1.42166253	4.01704463	0.00878243
N2	1.89602734	3.11785124	2.62947182
N3	3.49095431	2.10526204	0.54630770
N4	1.29743724	1.44519778	-1.00120630
C1	4.53898505	2.63979204	1.22539462
C2	5.82135300	2.68834793	0.70724388
С3	6.06663787	2.17540330	-0.56626227
C4	5.00008400	1.61484231	-1.26064154
C5	3.73411351	1.57481580	-0.68468718
C6	2.59067541	0.86260632	-1.35695450
С7	1.69933060	5.25599551	0.49166682
C8	1.82738427	6.36667304	-0.32400808
С9	1.67685404	6.22633445	-1.70338493
C10	1.37986265	4.96269641	-2.20212002
C11	1.23968471	3.88388033	-1.33463055
C12	0.78548953	2.53597849	-1.82947795
H1	4.30248193	3.03605040	2.21217823
H2	6.61853952	3.13025823	1.30599848
Н3	7.06446284	2.20835118	-1.00564714
H4	5.14174224	1.18875223	-2.25538358
H5	2.58573611	-0.17273455	-0.97393407
Н6	2.75616373	0.82730024	-2.44999894
Н7	1.81956660	5.32006607	1.57248006
Н8	2.04930171	7.33410510	0.12794655
Н9	1.78471235	7.08114633	-2.37234188
H10	1.23914062	4.80180072	-3.27236691
H11	1.04390320	2.41722988	-2.89827992
H12	-0.31407003	2.51399678	-1.73520745
H13	0.58734334	0.71609813	-0.87086382

 Table S2. Atomic Coordinates of Optimized Geometry for 1

	x/Å	y/Å	z/Å
Tc1	-0.84162330	0.84565462	0.08381351
N1	-2.03681542	0.09163148	0.94362684
N2	-1.66473413	3.94141337	-0.27725513
N3	-1.40172099	0.27539680	-3.03998288
N4	0.62371452	-0.76094671	-0.00066881
N5	0.43685670	1.55755684	1.69078158
N6	1.14118064	1.78053070	-0.98749217
C1	-1.51394077	2.78362621	-0.14653223
C2	-1.33769699	0.47029502	-1.88340061
С3	0.43832795	-1.91604769	0.68387438
C4	1.42766913	-2.87697944	0.81023206
C5	2.67128982	-2.65510856	0.22153586
C6	2.86040552	-1.47983179	-0.49624106
С7	1.82230617	-0.55834007	-0.60671612
C8	1.94284238	0.65889876	-1.48458729
С9	0.18090629	1.24500161	2.98440625
C10	1.06032195	1.54198626	4.01236552
C11	2.26466135	2.17769913	3.71495910
C12	2.52447619	2.51277957	2.39112260
C13	1.59320802	2.20839711	1.40143816
C14	1.77442130	2.67898227	-0.01813076
H1	-0.54534377	-2.04369155	1.13502177
H2	1.21763283	-3.78829952	1.37187118
Н3	3.47593736	-3.38618401	0.31570579
H4	3.81201829	-1.27068305	-0.98803885
H5	3.00728367	0.92582392	-1.62126228
H6	1.52648940	0.38440022	-2.47045913
H7	-0.76839917	0.74312451	3.16942238
H8	0.79720062	1.27006556	5.03556268
Н9	2.98400373	2.41290780	4.50097736
H10	3.44632676	3.02708465	2.11413072
H11	1.25203017	3.64962117	-0.09850885
H12	2.84690668	2.84576972	-0.23034035
H13	0.75995218	2.31908385	-1.77462013

**Table S3.** Atomic Coordinates of Optimized Geometry for 2

	x/Å	y/Å	z/Å
Tc1	-0.94375128	0.95713343	-0.04361590
N1	-1.91626419	0.03527485	0.97641188
N2	-1.79154466	4.06250083	0.08429151
N3	-1.50004252	0.21964623	-3.13200854
N4	0.62320781	-0.88754753	-0.09204960
N5	0.54079025	1.36728232	1.63558051
N6	1.13486960	1.71302112	-1.03661170
C1	-1.53894373	2.91305119	0.02779449
C2	-1.38959730	0.47018684	-1.98691905
С3	0.47730131	-1.93226550	0.73936734
C4	1.54560911	-2.73254354	1.12448845
C5	2.82083287	-2.42414467	0.65079972
C6	2.97324216	-1.33441762	-0.20563910
С7	1.85240949	-0.59398115	-0.56840262
C8	1.91445250	0.56021069	-1.53308360
С9	0.29489540	1.00961014	2.91458347
C10	1.15464032	1.33079855	3.95249960
C11	2.32079957	2.04194780	3.66776729
C12	2.57236709	2.41134611	2.34806301
C13	1.66014991	2.07165679	1.35443668
C14	1.81854457	2.56874910	-0.06092574
H1	-0.54191346	-2.10519575	1.09591167
H2	1.37728336	-3.58378795	1.78602154
Н3	3.68583004	-3.01898316	0.94882388
H4	3.95470276	-1.06448860	-0.59968747
Н5	2.96551241	0.83191265	-1.74098913
H6	1.44109663	0.24366210	-2.47857723
H7	-0.63074800	0.45143667	3.07211680
H8	0.91251148	1.01954856	4.96965932
Н9	3.02073357	2.30865373	4.46124871
H10	3.47058319	2.97269275	2.08477112
H11	1.33220028	3.56065644	-0.10468056
H12	2.89136576	2.70129953	-0.29603964
H13	0.82888530	2.28119352	-1.83693560

 Table S4. Atomic Coordinates of Optimized Geometry for 2\*

	1		2		2*
	Observed	Calcd	Observed	Calcd	Calcd
Tc≡N	1.646(3)	1.652	1.645(7)	1.654	1.684
Tc-X	2.3990(9),	2.388, 2.389	2.070(7),	2.063, 2.064	2.046, 2.052
	2.4032(9)		2.093(7)		
Tc–N(eq)	2.135(3),	2.137,	2.166(5),	2.173, 2.176	2.279, 2.421
	2.138(3)	2.140,	2.196(5)		
Tc–N(ax)	2.382(3)	2.4226	2.378(5)	2.440	2.424
N≡Tc−N(eq)	94.96(13)	94.8, 95.0	95.9(3),	99.8, 101.0	88.2, 91.6
			98.2(3)		
N≡Tc−N(ax)	165.70(12)	165.3	164.5(3)	171.9	156.0
N≡Tc−X	102.16(11),	106.7	98.7(3),	103.8, 104.5	108.6, 109.5
	103.65(11)		99.6(3)		
X-Tc-X	89.05(3)	89.4	87.2(2)	89.2	101.3
X–Tc–N(eq)	89.18(8),	89.0, 89.1	87.8(2),	88.1, 89.5	86.6, 89.5
	90.52(8)		89.8(2)		
X–Tc–N(eq)	161.26(8),	157.8, 158.0	162.9(2),	155.0, 155.3	151.9, 156.6
	162.48(8)		164.5(3)		
X–Tc–N(ax)	86.60(7),	83.5,	90.3(2),	81.2, 81.7	82.7, 88.0
	87.77(7)	83.7	93.4(2)		
N(eq)–Tc–N(eq)	85.62(11)	84.2	90.67(19)	82.8	74.4
N(eq)–Tc–N(ax)	74.69(11),	74.3, 74.3	71.4(2),	73.7, 73.8	71.0, 71.8
	74.72(10)		73.67(19)		

 Table S5.
 Selected Observed and Calculated Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) of 1, 2, and 2\*

 $X = CI \text{ for } \mathbf{1} \text{ and } X = C \text{ for } \mathbf{2}.$ 

wavenumber/cm <sup>-1</sup>		
Observed	Calcd	Assignment
2924	2923	<i>v</i> C-H(methylene)
1608	1587	v phenyl
1482	1456	ν phenyl
1433	1417	v phenyl
	1411	$\delta$ methylene
1287	1266, 1260	$\delta$ phenyl
1159	1147	$\delta$ phenyl
1102	1114	<i>v</i> C-N
1058	1086	vN≡Tc
772	765	γphenyl

Table S6. Selected Observed and Calculated IR Frequencies of 1

## Table S7. Selected Observed and Calculated IR Frequencies of 2

Wavenumber/cm <sup>-1</sup>		
Observed	Calcd	Assignment
2922	2923	v C-H(methylene)
2123, 2112	2134, 2127	vC≡N
1608	1590	ν phenyl
1449	1457	ν phenyl
	1418	$\delta$ methylene
1294	1264	$\delta$ phenyl
1157	1151	$\delta$ phenyl
1094	1106	νC-N
1055	1089	v N≡Tc
773	740	γphenyl

Wavenumb	er/cm <sup>-1</sup>		
Observed	Calcd	Oscillator	Major component of transition
		Strength	
21200 sh	24096	0.0001	$d_{xy} \to d_{\pi^*}$
			[HOMO → LUMO+2 (71.1%), HOMO → LUMO+1 (28.7%)]
	24849	0.0040	$d_{xy} \to d_{\pi^*}$
			[HOMO → LUMO+3 (93.6%), HOMO → LUMO (6.1%)]
26600	26294	0.0937	$d_{xy} \rightarrow \pi^*(bpa)$
			[HOMO → LUMO (92.7%), HOMO → LUMO+3 (6.1%)]
	27006	0.1131	$d_{xy} \rightarrow \pi^*(bpa)$
			[HOMO → LUMO+1 (70.4%), HOMO → LUMO+2 (28.4%)]
39400	37739	0.0187	$p(N_{amine}), p(CI), p(N_{nitrido}) \rightarrow d_{\pi^*} (63.4\%)$
			$p(N_{amine}), p(Cl), p(N_{nitrido}) \rightarrow \pi^*(bpa) (31.3\%)$
	39421	0.0112	p(Cl) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (46.8%)
			p(N <sub>amine</sub> ), p(Cl), p(N <sub>nitrido</sub> ) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (26.1%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow$ $\pi$ *(bpa) (17.2%)
	40503	0.0151	$p(Cl) \rightarrow d_{\pi^*}$ (77.0%)
	42243	0.0230	$p(Cl) \rightarrow d_{\pi^*}$ (35.2%)
			p(Cl) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (16.8%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (15.2%)
			$p(N_{amine}), p(Cl), p(N_{nitrido}) \rightarrow \pi^*(bpa) (14.1\%)$
	43109	0.0296	p(Cl), p(N <sub>nitrido</sub> ) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (35.8%)
			p(Cl) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (20.2%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow$ $\pi$ *(bpa) (15.4%)
	44146	0.0634	p(Cl), p(N <sub>nitrido</sub> ) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (48.5%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (14.0%)

 $\textbf{Table S8.} \ \textbf{Observed and Calculated Electronic Transition Energies of 1}$ 

Wavenumb	er/cm <sup>-1</sup>		
Observed	Calcd	Oscillator	Major component of transition
		Strength	
22800	26541	0.0063	$d_{xy} \mathrel{\Rightarrow} d_{\pi^*}$
			[HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO (51.6%), HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (37.1%),
			HOMO → LUMO+2 (11.0%)]
	26735	0.0059	$d_{xy} \rightarrow d_{\pi^*}$
			[HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (61.6%), HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO (24.7%),
			HOMO → LUMO+2 (13.4%)]
30200	30419	0.1003	$d_{xy}  o \pi^*$ (bpa), $d_{\pi^*}$
			[HOMO → LUMO+2 (74.9%), HOMO → LUMO (23.0%)]
	31870	0.0995	$d_{xy} \rightarrow \pi^*(bpa)$
			[HOMO → LUMO+3 (99.1%)]
37200	36946	0.0199	$p(N_{amine}), p(N_{nitrido})  ightarrow d_{\pi^*} (83.4\%)$
	37193	0.0153	$p(N_{amine}), p(N_{nitrido}) \rightarrow d_{\pi^*}(72.8\%)$
	37245	0.0086	$d_{xy} \rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (74.7%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow$ d $_{\pi^*}$ (13.4%)
39800	41992	0.0116	$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (46.4%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow$ d $_{\pi^*}$ (44.3%)
	43842	0.0521	p(N <sub>amine</sub> ), p(N <sub>nitrido</sub> ) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (36.5%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow$ d $_{\pi^*}$ (24.6%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow \pi^{*}$ (bpa) (13.1%)
	44413	0.0667	p(N <sub>amine</sub> ), p(N <sub>nitrido</sub> ) $\rightarrow \pi^*$ (bpa) (57.2%)
			$\pi$ (bpa) $\rightarrow$ d $_{\pi^*}$ (14.4%)

 Table S9.
 Observed and Calculated Electronic Transition Energies of 2



Fig. S1. The axes in the present study (L = Cl or CN).



Fig. S2. Energy diagrams in near HOMO/LUMO levels of [TcNCl<sub>2</sub>(bpa)] (1) and [TcN(CN)<sub>2</sub>(bpa)] (2).



HOMO (-5.62 eV)





LUMO (-1.79 eV)

LUMO+2 (-1.58 eV)

LUMO+1 (-1.63 eV)



LUMO+3 (-1.49 eV)

Fig. S3. Contour plots of MOs near the frontier orbital levels of [TcNCl<sub>2</sub>(bpa)] (1).



HOMO (-6.28 eV)





LUMO (-2.03 eV)

LUMO+1 (-1.94 eV)



LUMO+3 (-1.65 eV)



Fig. S4. Contour plots of MOs near the frontier orbital levels of [TcN(CN)<sub>2</sub>(bpa)] (2).



**Fig. S5.** Observed and calculated UV-vis spectra for **1** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (black: observed and red: calculated spectra).



**Fig. S6.** Observed and calculated UV-vis spectra for **2** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (black: observed and red: calculated spectra).