## **Supplementary Information**

## Slow magnetization dynamics in Co(II)/Co(III) triethanolamine/pivalate complexes

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**Figure SI1**. Molecular representation of compound **1** in crystal structure showing Hbond interaction of pivalate counterions. H atoms have been omitted for sake of clarity. Symmetry equivalence operation, a: 1-x, 1-y, 1-z. Green: cobalt, red: oxygen, blue: nitrogen, light grey: carbon.



**Figure SI2**. Molecular representation of compound **1** crystal structure H-bond network along *b*-axis direction. H atoms have been omitted for sake of clarity. Green: cobalt, red: oxygen, blue: nitrogen, light grey: carbon.



**Figure SI3**. Stick/ball molecular representation of compound **2** in crystal structure emphasizing the H-bond intra-molecular network. H atoms have been omitted for sake of clarity. Green: cobalt, red: oxygen, blue: nitrogen, light grey: carbon.



**Figure SI4**. Stick/ball molecular representation of compound **2** in crystal structure emphasizing the H-bond inter-molecular network. H atoms have been omitted for sake of clarity. Green: cobalt, red: oxygen, blue: nitrogen, light grey: carbon.



**Figure SI5.** Spin density isosurfaces (0.03 a.u.) arising from BS-DFT calculations of compound **1.** Top: High spin state (HS). Bottom: Broken symmetry states (BS). Green: cobalt, red: oxygen, blue: nitrogen, light grey: carbon.



**Figure SI6**. Left:  $\chi T vs$ . *T* data of compound **1** measured at 1000 Oe. Right: *M vs*. *H* in the range 1.85-8 K data of compound **1**. Open symbols correspond to experimental points and full line correspond to simulation with *D* and *E/D* parameters obtained from the ab-initio quantum chemical calculations (Table 2), *g* factor fixed at 2.34 and Hamiltonian of Eq. 1 (see text).



**Figure SI7**. *M* vs. *H* in the range 1.85 - 8 K data of compound **2**. Open symbols correspond to experimental points and full line correspond to best fitting with a three anisotropic exchange coupled  $S_{\text{eff}} = 1/2$  model (Hamiltonian Eq. 3) (see text).



Figure SI8. HF-EPR of a complex 1 powder sample measured at 320 GHz at variable temperature.



**Figure SI9.** HF-EPR spectra measured at 5K and variable microwave frequency of a compound 1 powder sample. Black: experimental; Red: simulated with DC magnetic data experimental ZFS D parameter (3 mT linewidth, and 0.04 g-strain).



**Figure SI10.** HF-EPR spectra measured at 5K and variable microwave frequency of a compound **1** powder sample. Black: experimental; Red: simulated with quantum chemical ab-initio ZFS D and E/D parameters (3 mT linewidth, and 0.04 g-strain).



**Figure SI11.** AC susceptibility data for compound **1** at different external applied DC fields in the range 1.9 - 15 K.



**Figure SI12.** AC susceptibility data for compound **2** at zero DC field in the range 1.9 - 15 K under a 200 Hz driving field frequency.



**Figure SI13.** AC susceptibility data for compound **2** at 2K under DC applied fields in the range 0-10000 Oe and with driving frequencies between 10-10000Hz. Full lines correspond to best fitting through generalized Debye model (see text).