## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Natural Abundance <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>15</sup>N Solid-State NMR Analysis of Paramagnetic Transition-Metal Cyanide Systems

Pedro M. Aguiar<sup>†</sup>, Michael Katz<sup>‡</sup>, Daniel B. Leznoff<sup>‡</sup>, Scott Kroeker<sup>†\*</sup>

<sup>+</sup> Department of Chemistry, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada <sup>+</sup> Department of Chemistry, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Table S1 Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles(°) for 8.<sup>a</sup>

| $Zn(1) - N(1^*)$ | 2.362(17) | $Zn(1) - N(3^*)$ | 2.135(9)  |
|------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| Zn(1) - N(3")    | 2.135(9)  | Zn(1) - N(3')    | 2.135(9)  |
| Zn(1) - N(1)     | 2.362(17) | Zn(1) - N(3)     | 2.135(9)  |
| Au(1) - Au(2\$)  | 3.2201(6) | Au(1) - Au(2)    | 3.2201(6) |

| $N(1^*) - Zn(1) - N(3^*)$        | 89.5(4)  | $N(1^*) - Zn(1) - N(3'')$ | 89.5(4)   |
|----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| $N(3^*) - Zn(1) - N(3^{"})$      | 97.7(5)  | $N(1^*) - Zn(1) - N(3')$  | 90.5(4)   |
| $N(3^*) - Zn(1) - N(3^{\prime})$ | 82.3(5)  | N(3'') - Zn(1) - N(3')    | 180       |
| $N(1^*) - Zn(1) - N(1)$          | 180      | $N(3^*) - Zn(1) - N(1)$   | 90.5(4)   |
| N(3") - Zn(1) - N(1)             | 90.5(4)  | N(3') - Zn(1) - N(1)      | 89.5(4)   |
| $N(1^*) - Zn(1) - N(3)$          | 90.5(4)  | $N(3^*) - Zn(1) - N(3)$   | 179.995   |
| N(3") - Zn(1) - N(3)             | 82.3(5)  | N(3') - Zn(1) - N(3)      | 97.7(5)   |
| N(1) - Zn(1) - N(3)              | 89.5(4)  | Zn(1) - N(1) - C(1)       | 150.4(14) |
| Zn(1) - N(3) - C(3)              | 106.4(8) |                           |           |

<sup>a</sup>Symmetry transformations : \*: 1-x, -y, 3-z; ": 1-x, y, 3-z; ': x, -y, z; \$: x , y, 1+z



**Figure S1**: The temperature dependence of the two <sup>13</sup>C cyanide signals for compound **1**.



Figure S2: Structure of compound 3 along with selected nitrogen to copper distances.

| Table S2: Results of <sup>13</sup> C variable-ter | mperature experiments. |
|---|------------------------|
|---|------------------------|

| Sample  |                 |              |                             |                |
|---|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Site  | $\delta_{diam}$ | Slope        | $^{13}C \rho_{\alpha\beta}$ | R <sup>2</sup> |
|   | (ppm)           | (ppm/1000 K) | (a.u.)                      |                |
| [Cu(en) <sub>2</sub> ][Hg(CN) <sub>2</sub> Cl] <sub>2</sub> |                 |              |                             |                |
| CN1   | $147 \pm 2$     | -3.1273      | -0.000089                   | 0.958          |
| CN2   | $149 \pm 2$     | 1.0905       | 0.000031                    | 0.935          |
| en (-CH <sub>2</sub> -)                                     | n.d.            |              |                             |                |
| $[Cu(en)_2][Ag_2(CN)_3][Ag(CN)_2]$                          |                 |              |                             |                |
| CN21  | $153 \pm 2$     | -2.28749     | -0.000065                   | 0.937          |
| CN21 <sup>a</sup>   | 153 ± 2         | -2.28749     | -0.000065                   | 0.937          |
| CN11  |                 | 0            |                             |                |
| CN11 <sup>a</sup>   |                 | 0            |                             |                |
| CN20  |                 | 0            |                             |                |
| en (-CH <sub>2</sub> -)                                     | 43 ± 13         | -108.68957   | -0.003083                   | 0.993          |
| [Cu(en) <sub>2</sub> ][Au(CN) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>   |                 |              |                             |                |
| CN1   | $152 \pm 2$     | -8.1537      | -0.000231                   | 0.963          |
| CN2   | $152 \pm 2$     | 5.7818       | 0.000164                    | 0.954          |
| en (-CH2-)  | $-40 \pm 30$    | -81.009      | -0.002298                   | 0.891          |



Figure S3: Spin-spin relaxation data for sample  $[Cu(en)_2[Zn(NC)_4(CuCN)_2]$ . The intensities for the signals at 182 (red circles) and 165 ppm (green squares) signals decay much more slowly than the 122 ppm signal (blue diamonds).



Figure S4: <sup>13</sup>C MAS of  $[Cu(en)_2[Zn(NC)_4(CuCN)_2]$  showing the splitting of the low-frequency peak upon changing the temperature.



Figure S5: Simulated (a) and experimental (b) spectra for compound 7 acquired at 10 kHz spinning.



Figure S6: Simulation (a) and experimental (b) spectra for compound 8 acquired at 6 kHz spinning.