Supporting Information

Table S1. Selected geometric parameters, distances and angles (Å, °), for 1

Structural data taken from Battaglia *et al.*, (entry JOGSON in the CSD) with due atom renaming according to Figure **1** in the main text.

$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$				
$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Cul-O1W} & 2.2724 \ (7) & {\rm N2A-C11A} & {\rm I.3750} \ (4) \\ {\rm Cul-N1A} & 2.0192 \ (6) & {\rm N2A-C10A} & {\rm I.3390} \ (4) \\ {\rm Cul-N2A} & {\rm 2.0116} \ (6) & {\rm O1D-C1D} & {\rm I.3357} \ (4) \\ {\rm Cul-O2B^{i}} & {\rm I.9365} \ (6) & {\rm O2D-C1D} & {\rm I.2238} \ (4) \\ {\rm O1B-C1B} & {\rm I.2565} \ (4) & {\rm N1D-C5D} & {\rm I.3766} \ (4) \\ {\rm O2B-C1B} & {\rm I.2813} \ (4) & {\rm O1C-N1C} & {\rm I.2169} \ (4) \\ {\rm N1A-C1A} & {\rm I.3105} \ (4) & {\rm O2C-N1C} & {\rm I.2335} \ (4) \\ {\rm N1A-C1A} & {\rm I.3697} \ (4) & {\rm O3C-N1C} & {\rm I.2425} \ (4) \\ \\ {\rm O1B-Cul-O1W} & {\rm 89.24} \ (2) & {\rm O1B-C1B-O2B} & {\rm I24.58} \ (2) \\ {\rm O1B-Cul-N1A} & {\rm 92.04} \ (2) & {\rm O1B-C1B-O2B} & {\rm I17.90} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O1B-Cul-N1A} & {\rm 92.04} \ (2) & {\rm O1B-C1B-C2B} & {\rm I17.90} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O1B-Cul-N1A} & {\rm 92.04} \ (2) & {\rm O1B-C1B-C2B} & {\rm I17.44} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O1B-Cul-O2B^{i}} & {\rm 94.60} \ (2) & {\rm N1B-C5B-C4B} & {\rm I20.63} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O1W-Cul-N2A} & {\rm 93.98} \ (2) & {\rm N2A-C11A-C9A} & {\rm I20.56} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O1W-Cul-N2A} & {\rm 93.98} \ (2) & {\rm N2A-C11A-C9A} & {\rm I20.56} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O1W-Cul-N2A} & {\rm 82.06} \ (2) & {\rm N1A-C12A-C4A} & {\rm I21.79} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O2B^{i}-Cul-N1A} & {\rm 164.49} \ (2) & {\rm N1A-C12A-C4A} & {\rm I21.26} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O2B^{i}-Cul-N1A} & {\rm 90.57} \ (2) & {\rm N1A-C12A-C4A} & {\rm I21.26} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O2B^{i}-Cul-N2A} & {\rm 90.57} \ (2) & {\rm N1A-C12A-C4A} & {\rm I21.26} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm O2B^{i}-Cul-N1A} - {\rm C1B} & {\rm I32.28} \ (2) & {\rm O1D-C1D-C2D} & {\rm I16.09} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm Cul-N1A-C1A} & {\rm I30.25} \ (2) & {\rm O1D-C1D-C2D} & {\rm I19.65} \ (2) \\ \\ {\rm Cul-N1A-C1A} - {\rm C1A} & {\rm I11.11} \ (2) & {\rm N1D-C5D-C4D} & {\rm 122.51} \ (2) \\ \end{array} $	Cu1—O1B	1.9461 (6)	N1B—C5B	1.3667 (4)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu1—O1W	2.2724 (7)	N2A—C11A	1.3750 (4)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu1—N1A	2.0192 (6)	N2A—C10A	1.3390 (4)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu1—N2A	2.0116 (6)	O1D—C1D	1.3357 (4)
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	Cu1—O2B ⁱ	1.9365 (6)	O2D—C1D	1.2238 (4)
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	O1B—C1B	1.2565 (4)	N1D—C5D	1.3766 (4)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	O2B—C1B	1.2813 (4)	O1C—N1C	1.2169 (4)
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	N1A—C1A	1.3105 (4)	O2C—N1C	1.2335 (4)
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	N1A—C12A	1.3697 (4)	O3C—N1C	1.2425 (4)
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$				
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	O1B—Cu1—O1W	89.24 (2)	O1B—C1B—O2B	124.58 (2)
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	O1B—Cu1—N1A	92.04 (2)	O1B—C1B—C2B	117.90 (2)
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	O1B—Cu1—N2A	173.66 (2)	O2B—C1B—C2B	117.44 (2)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	O1B—Cu1—O2B ⁱ	94.60 (2)	N1B—C5B—C4B	120.63 (2)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	O1W—Cu1—N1A	99.31 (2)	N1B—C5B—C6B	121.11 (2)
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	O1W—Cu1—N2A	93.98 (2)	N2A—C10A—C9A	120.56 (2)
C12A C12A N1A—Cu1—N2A 82.06 (2) N2A—C11A—C7A 121.79 (2) O2B ⁱ —Cu1—N1A 164.49 (2) N1A—C12A—C4A 121.26 (2) O2B ⁱ —Cu1—N2A 90.57 (2) N1A—C12A—C4A 121.26 (2) Cu1—O1B—C1B 132.28 (2) O1D—C1D—C2D 116.09 (2) Cu1—O1B—C1B 126.44 (2) O2D—C1D—C2D 124.23 (2) Cu1—N1A—C1A 130.25 (2) O1D—C1D—O2D 119.65 (2) Cu1—N1A—C12A 111.11 (2) N1D—C5D—C4D 122.51 (2)	O1W—Cu1—O2B ⁱ	94.78 (2)	N2A—C11A—	116.31 (2)
N1A—Cu1—N2A82.06 (2)N2A—C11A—C7A121.79 (2) $O2B^{i}$ —Cu1—N1A164.49 (2)N1A—C12A—C4A121.26 (2) $O2B^{i}$ —Cu1—N2A90.57 (2)N1A—C12A—118.17 (2) $C11A$ Cu1—O1B—C1B132.28 (2)O1D—C1D—C2D116.09 (2) $Cu1^{i}$ —O2B—C1B126.44 (2)O2D—C1D—C2D124.23 (2) $Cu1$ —N1A—C1A130.25 (2)O1D—C1D—O2D119.65 (2) $Cu1$ —N1A—C12A111.11 (2)N1D—C5D—C4D122.51 (2)			C12A	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N1A—Cu1—N2A	82.06 (2)	N2A—C11A—C7A	121.79 (2)
$O2B^{i}$ —Cu1—N2A90.57 (2)N1A—C12A— C11A118.17 (2) C11ACu1—O1B—C1B132.28 (2)O1D—C1D—C2D116.09 (2)Cu1 ⁱ —O2B—C1B126.44 (2)O2D—C1D—C2D124.23 (2)Cu1—N1A—C1A130.25 (2)O1D—C1D—O2D119.65 (2)Cu1—N1A—C12A111.11 (2)N1D—C5D—C4D122.51 (2)	O2B ⁱ —Cu1—N1A	164.49 (2)	N1A—C12A—C4A	121.26 (2)
C11A C11A Cu1—O1B—C1B 132.28 (2) O1D—C1D—C2D 116.09 (2) Cu1 ⁱ —O2B—C1B 126.44 (2) O2D—C1D—C2D 124.23 (2) Cu1—N1A—C1A 130.25 (2) O1D—C1D—O2D 119.65 (2) Cu1—N1A—C12A 111.11 (2) N1D—C5D—C4D 122.51 (2)	O2B ⁱ —Cu1—N2A	90.57 (2)	N1A—C12A—	118.17 (2)
Cu1—O1B—C1B 132.28 (2) O1D—C1D—C2D 116.09 (2) Cu1 ⁱ —O2B—C1B 126.44 (2) O2D—C1D—C2D 124.23 (2) Cu1—N1A—C1A 130.25 (2) O1D—C1D—O2D 119.65 (2) Cu1—N1A—C12A 111.11 (2) N1D—C5D—C4D 122.51 (2)			C11A	
Cu1 ⁱ —O2B—C1B 126.44 (2) O2D—C1D—C2D 124.23 (2) Cu1—N1A—C1A 130.25 (2) O1D—C1D—O2D 119.65 (2) Cu1—N1A—C12A 111.11 (2) N1D—C5D—C4D 122.51 (2)	Cu1—O1B—C1B	132.28 (2)	O1D—C1D—C2D	116.09 (2)
Cu1—N1A—C1A 130.25 (2) O1D—C1D—O2D 119.65 (2) Cu1—N1A—C12A 111.11 (2) N1D—C5D—C4D 122.51 (2)	Cu1 ⁱ —O2B—C1B	126.44 (2)	O2D—C1D—C2D	124.23 (2)
Cu1—N1A—C12A 111.11 (2) N1D—C5D—C4D 122.51 (2)	Cu1—N1A—C1A	130.25 (2)	O1D—C1D—O2D	119.65 (2)
	Cu1—N1A—C12A	111.11 (2)	N1D—C5D—C4D	122.51 (2)

C1A—N1A—C12A	118.63 (2)	N1D—C5D—C6D	120.07 (2)
Cu1—N2A—C11A	112.14 (2)	02C—N1C—O3C	119.63 (2)
Cu1—N2A—C10A	128.68 (2)	01C—N1C—O2C	120.82 (2)
C10A—N2A—	119.16 (2)	01C—N1C—O3C	119.55 (2)
C11A			
N1A—C1A—C2A	122.63 (2)		

Symmetry code: (i) -x, y, -z+1/2.

 $Cu1 - O1B^{i}$ 1.9442 (13) C9A-C10A 1.395 (3) C9A—H9A Cu1—O2B 0.93 1.9486 (13) Cu1—N1A C10A—H10A 0.93 2.0117 (16) Cu1—N2A 2.0186 (16) C11A—C12A 1.426 (3) Cu1—N1C 2.2563 (15) O1B—C1B 1.269 (2) N1A-C1A 1.328 (3) O2B—C1B 1.263 (2) N1A—C12A 1.357 (3) N1B—C5B 1.387 (3) N2A—C10A 0.90 1.331 (3) N1B—H1BA N2A—C11A 1.362 (3) N1B—H1BB 0.90 1.399 (3) C1A—C2A C1B—C2B 1.481 (3) C1A—H1A 0.93 C2B—C7B 1.396 (3) C2A—C3A 1.359 (4) C2B—C3B 1.396 (3) C2A—H2A 0.93 C3B—C4B 1.375 (3) C3A—C4A 1.395 (4) C3B—H3B 0.93 СЗА—НЗА 0.93 C4B—C5B 1.395 (3) C4B—H4B C4A—C12A 1.403 (3) 0.93 C4A—C5A 1.440 (3) C5B—C6B 1.398 (3) C5A—C6A 1.345 (4) C6B—C7B 1.373 (3) 0.93 C6B—H6B C5A—H5A 0.93 C6A—C7A 1.437 (3) C7B—H7B 0.93 C6A—H6A 0.93 N1C—C2C 1.329 (3) C7A—C8A N1C—C1C 1.402 (4) 1.327 (3) $C1C-C2C^{ii}$ C7A—C11A 1.398 (3) 1.384 (3) C8A—C9A 1.373 (4) C1C—H1C 0.93 0.93 C8A—H8A 0.93 C2C—H2C $O1B^{i}$ —Cu1—O2B 96.27 (6) N2A—C10A—H10A 118.8 O1Bⁱ—Cu1—N1A 164.80(6) C9A—C10A—H10A 118.8 O2B—Cu1—N1A 90.62 (6) N2A—C11A—C7A 123.1 (2) O1Bⁱ—Cu1—N2A 89.63 (6) N2A—C11A—C12A 116.33 (17) O2B—Cu1—N2A 170.05 (6) C7A—C11A—C12A 120.59 (19)

Table S2: Selected geometric parameters, distances and angles (Å, °), for 2. (Data provided by a queezed refinement of an incomplete model)

N1A—Cu1—N2A	81.82 (7)	N1A—C12A—C4A	123.0 (2)
O1B ⁱ —Cu1—N1C	93.15 (6)	N1A—C12A—C11A	116.69 (17)
O2B—Cu1—N1C	87.55 (6)	C4A—C12A—C11A	120.29 (19)
N1A—Cu1—N1C	100.69 (6)	C1B—O1B—Cu1 ⁱ	123.39 (12)
N2A—Cu1—N1C	100.16 (6)	C1B—O2B—Cu1	135.32 (12)
C1A—N1A—C12A	118.31 (17)	C5B—N1B—H1BA	115.1
C1A—N1A—Cu1	129.04 (14)	C5B—N1B—H1BB	107.5
C12A—N1A—Cu1	112.63 (13)	H1BA—N1B—H1BB	130.7
C10A—N2A—C11A	118.25 (18)	O2B—C1B—O1B	124.58 (17)
C10A—N2A—Cu1	129.34 (15)	O2B—C1B—C2B	117.34 (16)
C11A—N2A—Cu1	112.42 (13)	O1B—C1B—C2B	118.09 (16)
N1A—C1A—C2A	122.0 (2)	C7B—C2B—C3B	118.20 (18)
N1A—C1A—H1A	119.0	C7B—C2B—C1B	121.50 (17)
C2A—C1A—H1A	119.0	C3B—C2B—C1B	120.30 (17)
C3A—C2A—C1A	119.6 (2)	C4B—C3B—C2B	120.72 (19)
СЗА—С2А—Н2А	120.2	С4В—С3В—Н3В	119.6
C1A—C2A—H2A	120.2	С2В—С3В—Н3В	119.6
C2A—C3A—C4A	120.2 (2)	C3B—C4B—C5B	120.65 (19)
С2А—С3А—НЗА	119.9	C3B—C4B—H4B	119.7
С4А—С3А—НЗА	119.9	C5B—C4B—H4B	119.7
C3A—C4A—C12A	116.8 (2)	N1B—C5B—C4B	120.4 (2)
C3A—C4A—C5A	124.9 (2)	N1B—C5B—C6B	120.8 (2)
C12A—C4A—C5A	118.2 (2)	C4B—C5B—C6B	118.70 (19)
C6A—C5A—C4A	121.0 (2)	C7B—C6B—C5B	120.17 (19)
С6А—С5А—Н5А	119.5	С7В—С6В—Н6В	119.9
С4А—С5А—Н5А	119.5	С5В—С6В—Н6В	119.9
C5A—C6A—C7A	121.8 (2)	C6B—C7B—C2B	121.26 (19)
С5А—С6А—Н6А	119.1	С6В—С7В—Н7В	119.4
С7А—С6А—Н6А	119.1	С2В—С7В—Н7В	119.4
C8A—C7A—C11A	117.1 (2)	C2C—N1C—C1C	115.99 (17)
С8А—С7А—С6А	124.9 (2)	C2C—N1C—Cu1	121.23 (13)
С11А—С7А—С6А	118.0 (2)	C1C—N1C—Cu1	122.77 (13)
C9A—C8A—C7A	119.8 (2)	N1C—C1C—C2C ⁱⁱ	121.92 (18)
С9А—С8А—Н8А	120.1	N1C—C1C—H1C	119.0

С7А—С8А—Н8А	120.1	C2C ⁱⁱ —C1C—H1C	119.0
C8A—C9A—C10A	119.5 (2)	N1C—C2C—C1C ⁱⁱ	122.08 (19)
С8А—С9А—Н9А	120.3	N1C—C2C—H2C	119.0
С10А—С9А—Н9А	120.3	C1C ⁱⁱ —C2C—H2C	119.0
N2A—C10A—C9A	122.3 (2)		

Symmetry codes: (i) -*x*+1, *y*, -*z*-1/2; (ii) -*x*+1, -*y*+2, -*z*.

Figures



Figure S1: Angular variation of the line width Γ in the crystal planes a*b, a*c and bc at Q-band and 298 K, for compound **2**. Symbols are experimental values; the arrows indicate the angle around which the collapse of the resonances occurs.



Figure S2: (a) and (b) position of the $\pm 1 \leftrightarrow 0$ EPR transitions, (c) and (d) linewidths of signals in compound **2** around the magic angles in the *cb*-plane [indicated with green circle in Fig. 6(c)]. Symbols are experimental values; the solid lines are obtained from a global fit of Eq. (4) to the data.



Figure S3: Localized SOMOs of compounds 1 and 2 in BS state (contour value 0.03).



Figure S4: Spin densities calculated for the BS states of compounds **1** and **2** (blue surface is used for positive spin densities and green surface is used for negative spin densities, contour value is 0.01).