

## **Supplementary Information:**

### **Strong NH···S hydrogen bonds in molybdoenzyme models containing anilide moieties**

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## X-ray analysis

Single crystal of *N*-phenyl-2,3-bis(pivaloylthio)benzamide was selected carefully and mounted in a loop with Nujol, which was frozen immediately in a stream of cold nitrogen at 200 K. Data collection was made on a Rigaku RAXIS-RAPID Imaging Plate diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation (0.71075 Å). The structures were solved by SIR92<sup>1</sup> and expanded by Fourier technique using SHELXL-97.<sup>2</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. All hydrogen atoms were placed at the calculated positions using the riding model.

## References

1. A. Altomare, M. C. Burla, M. Camalli, M. Cascarano, C. Giacovazzo, A. Guagliardi and G. Polidori, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.*, 1994, **27**, 435.
2. G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.*, 2008, **A64**, 112-122.

**Table S1** Crystallographic data for 2,3-(*t*-BuCOS)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>CONHPh

	2,3-( <i>t</i> -BuCOS) <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> CONHPh
empirical formula	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>27</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
formula weight	429.58
color	colorless
crystal system	monoclinic
<i>a</i> , Å	14.012(5)
<i>b</i> , Å	11.196(3)
<i>c</i> , Å	17.900(5)
$\beta$ , deg	123.857(13)
<i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>	2332(1)
space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /c
<i>Z</i>	4
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> , g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.224
<i>F</i> (000)	912
$\mu$ (MoK $\alpha$ ), mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.251
Scan type	$\omega$
2 $\theta$ <sub>max</sub> , deg	55
No. of Reflections unique	5334
No. Variables	266
<i>R</i> 1 <sup>a</sup> ( <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )), <i>wR</i> 2 <sup>b</sup> (all data)	0.0424, 0.1108
GOF	1.037
CCDC number	917686

$$^aR1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|. \quad ^b wR2 = \{ \sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum [w(F_o^2)^2] \}^{1/2}$$

**Table S2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts for the anion parts of **1–4** in acetonitrile-*d*<sub>3</sub> at 30 °C

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	difference	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	difference
4-H	7.77	7.47	0.30	7.60	7.26	0.34
5-H	6.92	6.82	0.10	6.74	6.55	0.19
6-H	7.60	7.43	0.17	7.40	7.14	0.26
NH	11.3	11.0	0.3	9.08	8.63	0.45
<i>o</i> -H	7.85	7.18	0.67	—	—	—
<i>m</i> -H	7.41	7.18	0.23	—	—	—
<i>p</i> -H	7.13	6.96	0.17	—	—	—
<i>t</i> -Bu	—	—	—	1.45	1.16	0.29

**Table S3** Geometrical and electrostatic parameters of the optimized structures for *trans*-**1** and *cis*-**1**

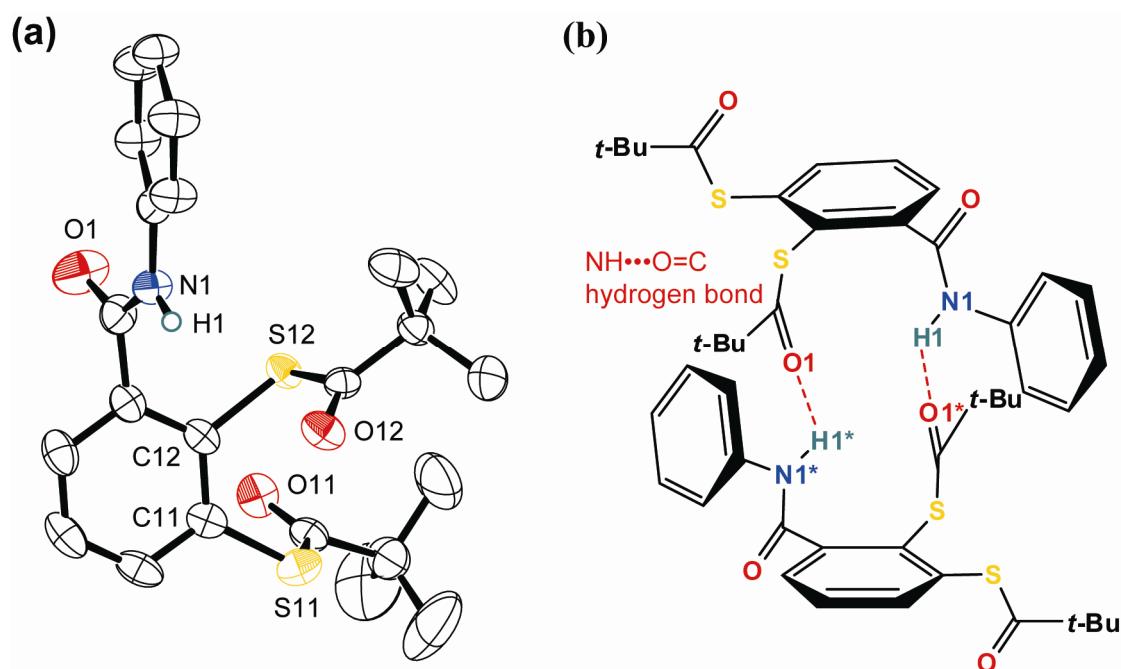
	<i>trans</i> - <b>1</b>	<i>cis</i> - <b>1</b>
Mo=O, Å	1.7002	1.7002
bond index <sup>a</sup>	1.9954	1.9946
bond order <sup>b</sup>	0.9056	0.9055
Mo–S1(S3), Å	2.4329	2.4393
bond index	0.7203	0.7106
bond order	0.5656	0.5619
Mo–S2(S4), Å	2.4246	2.4190
bond index	0.8141	0.8234
bond order	0.5909	0.5944
S1–C1(S3–C3), Å	1.7853	1.7857
bond index	1.0866	1.0858
bond order	0.8449	0.8444
S2–C2(S4–C4), Å	1.7833	1.7838
bond index	1.0761	1.0761
bond order	0.8427	0.8422
NH···S, Å	2.0507	2.0490
bond index	0.1114	0.1123
bond order	0.1498	0.1508
natural charge		
Mo	0.65512	0.65359
O	-0.53531	-0.5357
S1(S3)	-0.19381	-0.20411
S2(S4)	-0.18424	-0.17387
C1(C3)	-0.18436	-0.15925
C2(C4)	-0.16052	-0.18551
energy level/a.u.		
LUMO	0.13486	0.13587
HOMO	0.02130	0.02212
gap/a.u.	0.11356	0.11375
kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup>	71.260	71.379
total energy		
E(RB+HF-LYP)/a.u.	-6904.232680	-6904.231831
difference/a.u.	-0.000851	
kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup>	-0.534	

<sup>a</sup>Wiberg bond index. <sup>b</sup>Atom-atom overlap-weighted NAO bond order.

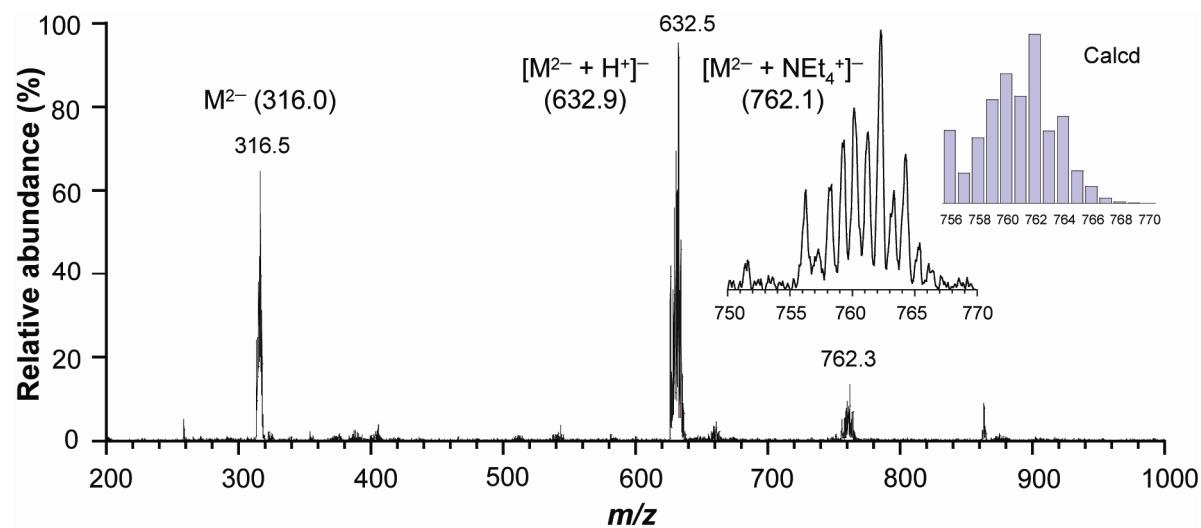
**Table S4** Geometrical and electrostatic parameters of the optimized structures for **2**

	2	
O1–Mo–O2, deg		103.71
Mo=O1(O2), Å	1.7315	1.7316
bond index <sup>a</sup>	1.7760	1.7754
bond order <sup>b</sup>	0.8134	0.8131
Mo–S1(S3), Å	2.6912	2.6896
bond index	0.4623	0.4641
bond order	0.4051	0.4060
Mo–S2(S4), Å	2.4579	2.4580
bond index	0.8021	0.8024
bond order	0.5574	0.5576
difference Mo-S, Å	0.2333	0.2316
S1–C1(S3–C3), Å	1.7530	1.7533
bond index	1.1812	1.1803
bond order	0.9112	0.9106
S2–C2(S4–C4), Å	1.7742	1.7742
bond index	1.0891	1.0892
bond order	0.8491	0.8492
NH···S, Å	2.0495	2.0514
bond index	0.1178	0.1171
bond order	0.1536	0.1528
natural charge		
Mo		1.15059
O1(O2)	-0.56158	-0.56170
S1(S3)	-0.21082	-0.21091
S2(S4)	-0.11558	-0.11558
C1(C3)	-0.16229	-0.16223
C2(C4)	-0.19383	-0.19376

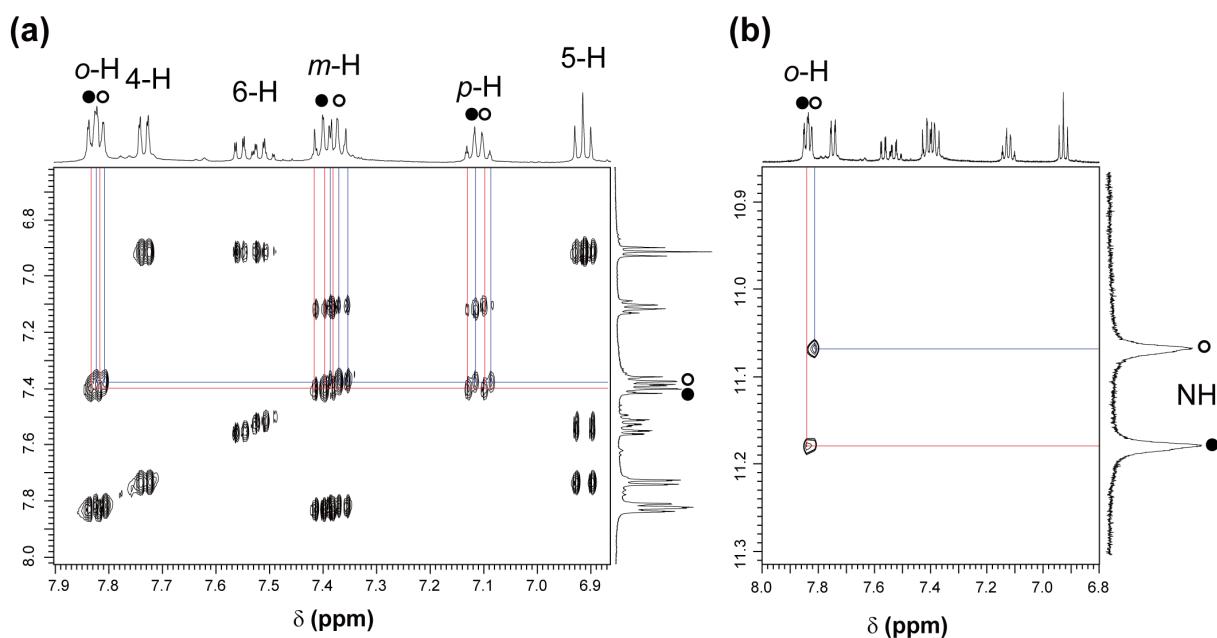
<sup>a</sup>Wiberg bond index|.   <sup>b</sup>Atom-atom overlap-weighted NAO bond order.



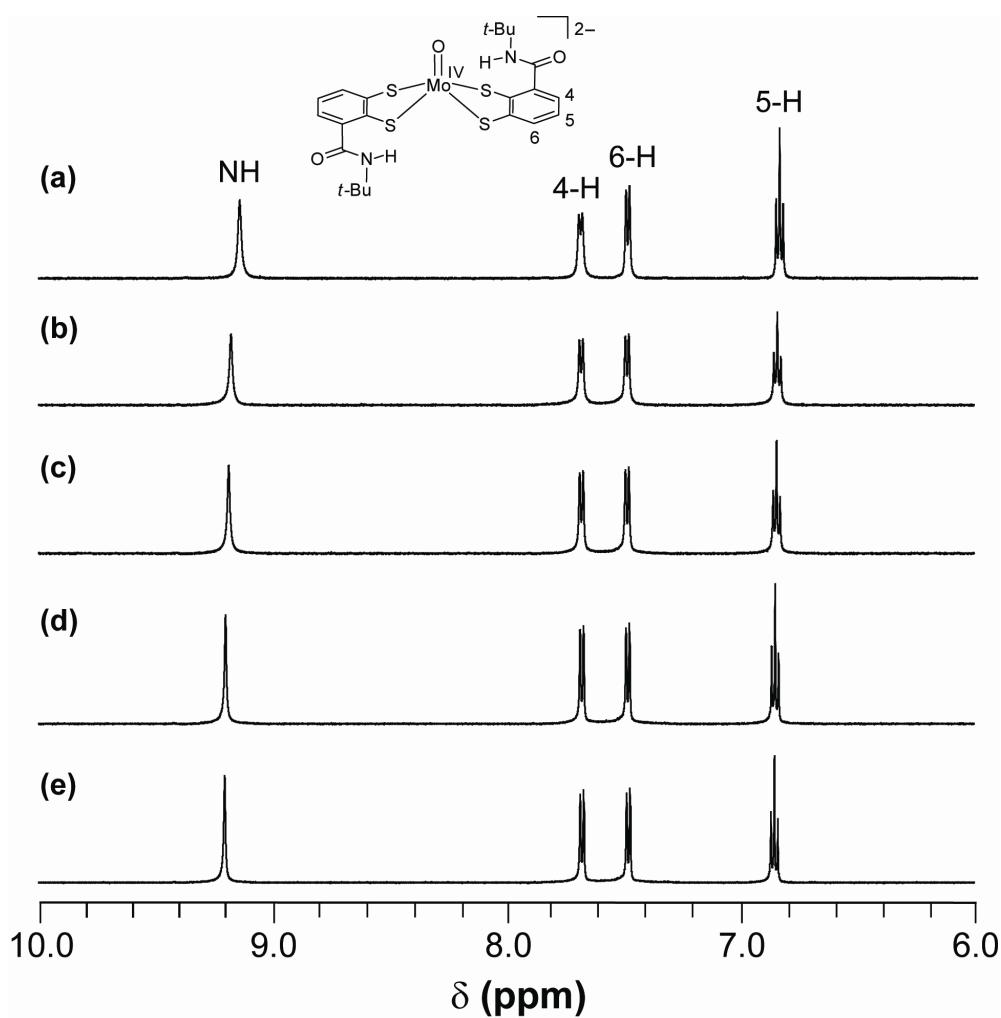
**Fig. S1** Molecular structure of  $2,3\text{-}(\text{t-BuCOS})_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{CONHPh}$  (a) and illustration of intermolecular  $\text{NH}\cdots\text{O}=\text{C}$  hydrogen bonds (b).



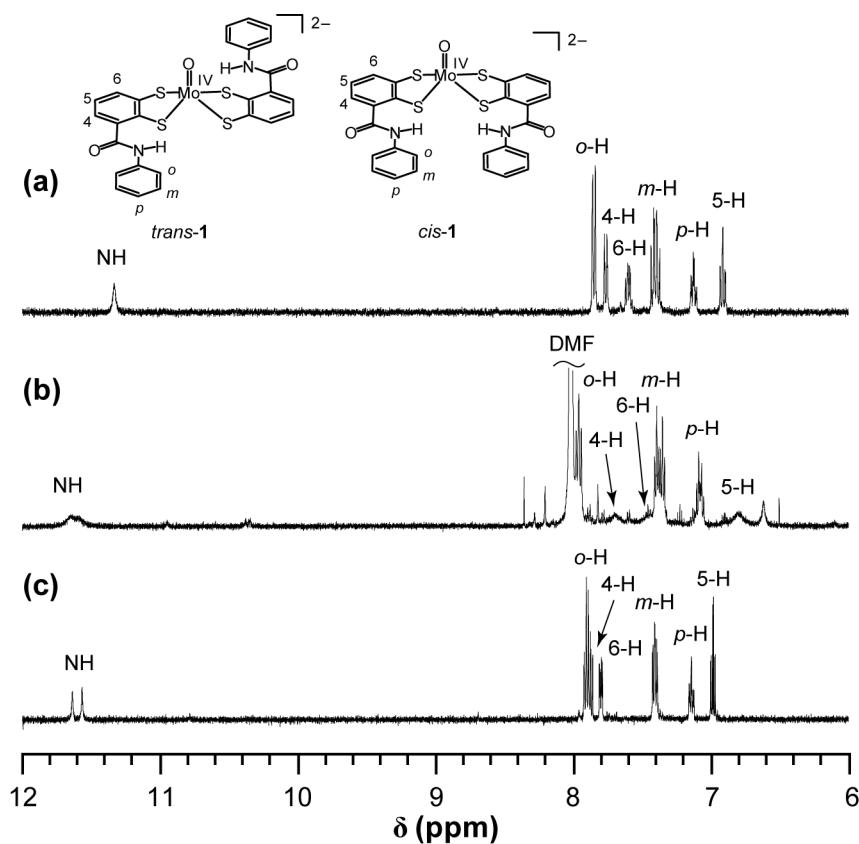
**Fig. S2** ESI-MS spectrum of  $(\text{NEt}_4)_2[\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}(1,2\text{-S}_2\text{-3-PhNHCOC}_6\text{H}_3)_2]$  (**1**) in acetonitrile, where  $\text{M}^{2-} = [\text{MoO}(1,2\text{-S}_2\text{-3-PhNHCOC}_6\text{H}_3)_2]^{2-}$ . Calculated values are shown in the parentheses. The enlarged spectrum is the peak at  $m/z$  762.3, accompanying simulated isotope pattern.



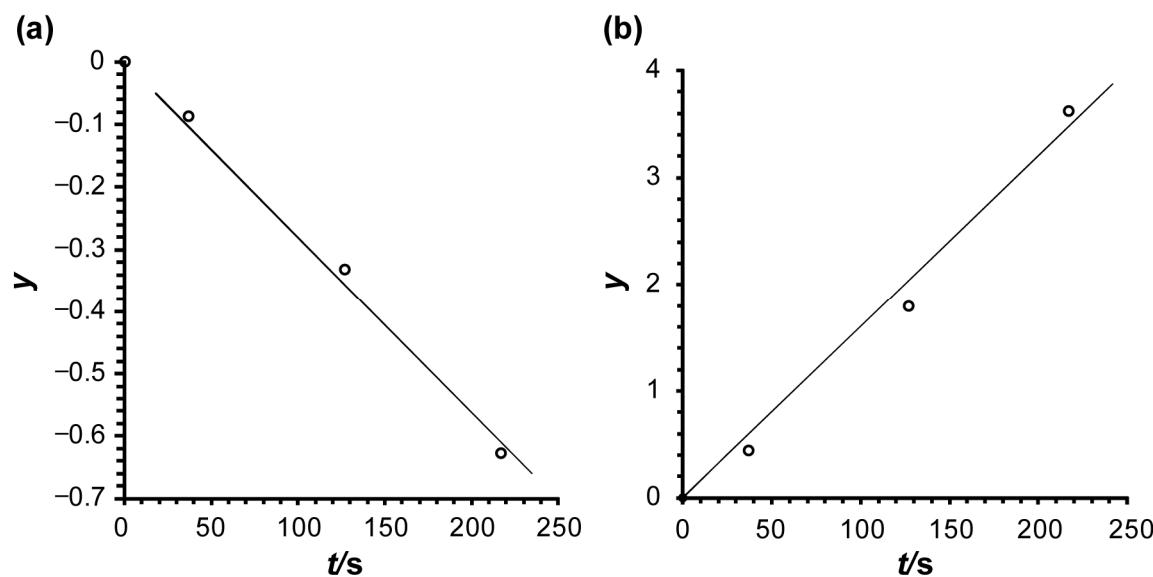
**Fig. S3** (a) <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H gCOSY and (b) NOESY spectra of **1** in acetonitrile-*d*<sub>3</sub> at -30 °C.



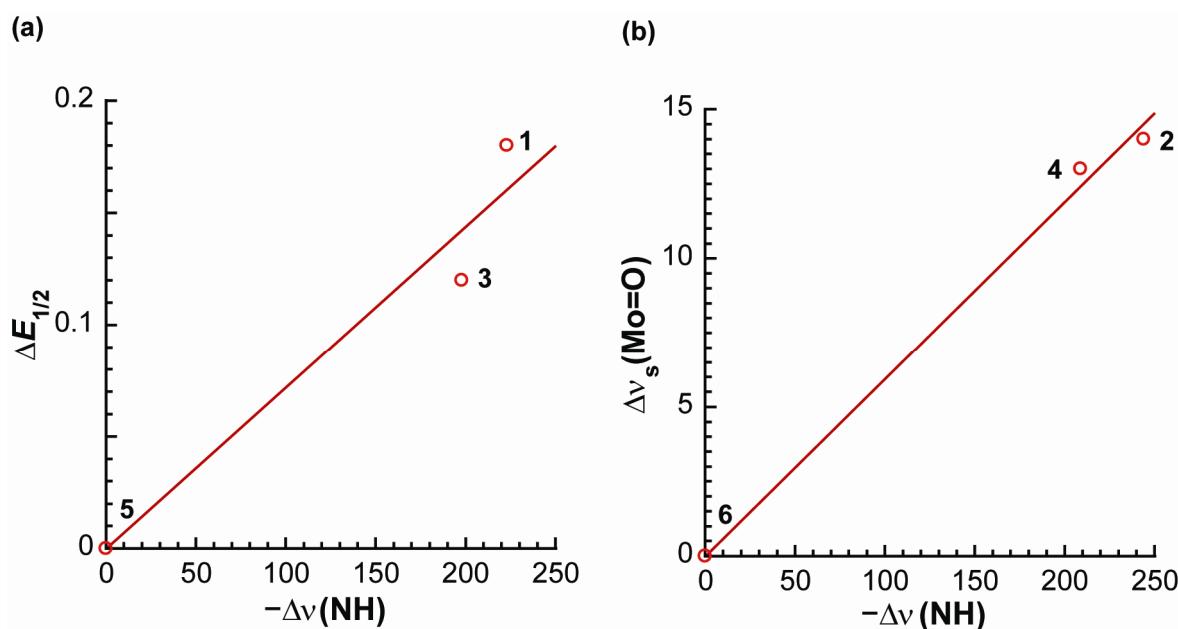
**Fig. S4** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (NEt<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>[Mo<sup>IV</sup>O(1,2-S<sub>2</sub>-3-*t*-BuNHCOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (*trans*-**3**) in acetonitrile-*d*<sub>3</sub> at (a) 30, (b) 0, (c) -10, (d) -30, and (e) -40 °C.



**Fig. S5**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $(\text{NEt}_4)_2[\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}(1,2-\text{S}_2-3-\text{PhNHCOC}_6\text{H}_3)_2]$  (**1**) in (a) acetonitrile- $d_3$ , (b) DMF- $d_7$ , and (c) dichloromethane- $d_2$  at 30 °C.



**Fig. S6** (a) Pseudo-first- and (b) second-order kinetics of the reaction between **1** and  $\text{Me}_3\text{NO}$  to **2** in DMF at 27 °C ( $[\text{Mo}] = 1 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[\text{Me}_3\text{NO}] = 2 \text{ mM}$ ). The fitting lines are  $y = \ln(1 - [\text{Mo}^{\text{VI}}\text{O}_2]/[\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}]_0) = -k_{\text{obs}} \cdot t$ , where  $k_{\text{obs}}$  equals  $31 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for (a) and  $y = 10^{-2} \cdot \{1/[\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}]_0 - [\text{Me}_3\text{NO}]_0\} \cdot \ln\{([\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}][\text{Me}_3\text{NO}]_0)/([\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}\text{O}]_0[\text{Me}_3\text{NO}])\} = 10^{-2} \cdot k_2 \cdot t$ , where  $k_2$  equals 2.12 for (b).



**Fig. S7** Correlation (a) between  $\Delta v(\text{NH})$  and  $\Delta E_{1/2}$  in the monooxomolybdenum(IV) complexes and (b) between  $\Delta v(\text{NH})$  and  $\Delta v_s(\text{Mo=O})$  in the dioxomolybdenum(VI) complexes. The original data are shown in Tables 1 and 2.