## **Supporting Information**

## Novel Triphenylamine-Modified Ruthenium(II) Terpyridine Complexes for Nickel Oxide-based Cathodic Dye-sensitized Solar Cells.

Christopher J. Wood,<sup>a</sup> Kiyoshi C. D. Robson,<sup>b</sup> Paul I. P. Elliot,<sup>c</sup> Curtis P. Berlinguette,<sup>b</sup> Elizabeth A.

 $Gibson^{*^a}$ 

<sup>a</sup> School of Chemistry, The University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, UK.

<sup>b</sup> Department of Chemistry, Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy, and Centre

for Advanced Solar Materials, University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive Northwest, Calgary,

Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4.

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemical & Biological Sciences, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate,

Huddersfield, HD1 3DH, UK.

Elizabeth.gibson@nottingham.ac.uk

- 1) NMR spectra for K1 and K2
- 2) UV-visible absorption spectra of K1 and K2
- 3) Differential Pulse Voltammetry for K1 and K2
- 4) FTIR spectra of K1 and K2 adsorbed on NiO
- 5) Emission decay for **K1** in methanol
- 6) DFT calculations for **K1** and **K2** in methanol
- 7) *J-V* and IPCE data for **K1** with  $Co(dtb)_3ClO_{3(2)}$  electrolyte.



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **K1** in MeOD with assignments.



Figure S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **K2** in MeOD/NaOD with assignments.



Figure S3. FTIR spectra of K1 (black) and K2 (red) adsorbed on NiO.



**Figure S4** Plot of emission decay of **K1** at 530 nm (excitation at 406 nm). The data was fitted to a single exponential function to give and excited state lifetime of 4.053 (+/- 0.01) ns. This lifetime is considered too close to the instrument response time of the detector to be meaningful.



Figure S5. Molecular orbital energy level plot for K1 (left) and K2 (right).

	K1	K2
LUMO+5	-1.93	-1.72
LUMO+4	-2.11	-1.91
LUMO+3	-2.60	-2.19
LUMO+2	-2.68	-2.57
LUMO+1	-2.70	-2.58
LUMO	-2.97	-2.61
HOMO	-5.49	-5.52
HOMO-1	-6.19	-5.65
HOMO-2	-6.20	-5.66
HOMO-3	-6.25	-5.93
HOMO-LUMO	2.52	2.91

Table S6. Energies of frontier orbitals.





Table S2.Electron distribution in the frontier orbitals.



Figure S7. Calculated TD-DFT optical absorption spectrum for K1

Table S3.	. Wavelengths,	oscillator stren	ngths (f) and	l predominant	compositions	or selected major
transition	s for <b>K1</b> .					

State	λ / nm	f	Composition
<b>S</b> <sub>1</sub>	559	1.058	HOMO→LUMO
S <sub>13</sub>	428	0.256	HOMO-3→LUMO+1 & HOMO-3→LUMO+2
S <sub>16</sub>	412	0.477	HOMO→LUMO+4
S <sub>17</sub>	398	0.188	HOMO→LUMO+5
S <sub>21</sub>	358	0.113	HOMO-4→LUMO & HOMO→LUMO+7



Figure S8. Calculated TD-DFT optical absorption spectrum for K2

State	λ / nm	f	Composition
<b>S</b> <sub>1</sub>	590	0.0053	HOMO-2→LUMO+1
S <sub>7</sub>	504	0.187	HOMO→LUMO & HOMO→LUMO+2
S <sub>8</sub>	501	0.733	HOMO→LUMO & HOMO→LUMO+2
S <sub>10</sub>	447	0.234	HOMO-1→LUMO+1 & HOMO-2→LUMO+2
S <sub>13</sub>	435	0.104	HOMO→LUMO+3
S <sub>15</sub>	411	0.171	HOMO-3→LUMO & HOMO-2→LUMO+3
S <sub>16</sub>	387	0.272	HOMO→LUMO+4
S <sub>19</sub>	368	0.230	HOMO→LUMO+5

Table S.4. Wavelengths, oscillator strengths (f) and predominant compositions or selected major transitions for **K2**.



Figure S9. IV and IPCE characterisation of **K1** DSCs incorporating  $0.1M \text{ Co}(dtb)_3(ClO_4)_{3(2)}$  in propylene carbonate (bottom) showing measurements at 0 hours (circles) and 12 hours (triangles) with 1 hour 'light soaking' (red) and kept in the dark (blue).