SYNTHESIS AND REACTIVITY OF NEW NICKEL COMPLEXES. Anjaneyulu Koppaka, Derek Isrow, Burjor Captain. Department of Chemistry, University of Miami, Cox Science Center, Room 315,1301 Memorial Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33146-0431.

The reaction between Ni(COD)<sub>2</sub>, <sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH and <sup>t</sup>BuNC (1:2:3 ratio) in hexane solution at 68 °C afforded the trigonal bipyramidal complex Ni(SntBu<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(tBuNC)<sub>3</sub>, 1. Compound 1 reacts with CO at room temperature and at higher temperatures (68 °C) to give Ni(Sn<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(<sup>t</sup>BuNC)<sub>2</sub>(CO), **2**, and Ni(Sn<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(<sup>t</sup>BuNC)(CO)<sub>2</sub>, **3**, respectively. Compound **2** is a distorted trigonal bipyramidal structure due to steric repulsion between the bulky tBu groups that are on both the equatorial and axial sites. Compounds 1, 2 and 3 are all photoactive. When oxygen-free yellow hexane solutions of 2 is exposed to incandescent light, the purple colored complex [Ni(Sn<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>)(<sup>t</sup>BuNC)<sub>2</sub>(CO)]<sub>2</sub>, **4**, is obtained. Compound 4 is formed by the cleavage of a •Sn<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub> radical from 2 and subsequent dimerization of •Ni(Sn<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>)(<sup>t</sup>BuNC)<sub>2</sub>(CO) radical. Exposing hexane solutions of **2**, in the presence of  $Ni(\eta^2-N,O-$ **TEMPO** to incandescent light, gives brownish yellow TEMPO)(Sn<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>)(<sup>t</sup>BuNC), **5**. Ni(COD)<sub>2</sub> also reacts with TEMPO to give 16e<sup>-</sup>, Ni(n<sup>2</sup>-N,O-TEMPO)<sub>2</sub>, **6.** The reactions of **6**, which are facilitated by the TEMPO ligand, will also be discussed.