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Efficient Carbonylation of Methanol Catalyzed by Rhodium(I) Cyclooctadiene Complexes with Triphenylphosphinechalcogenide Ligands

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Rhodium(I) complexes of the type, [Rh(COD)ClL] (COD=1,5-cyclooctadiene and L=Ph_3PO, Ph_3PS and Ph_3PSe) have been synthesized. The complexes show higher efficiency as catalyst for carbonylation of methanol to acetic acid and methyl acetate at 130 °C and 15 bar pressure than the industrially used species $[Rh(CO)_2I_2]^-$.