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Pressure-dependent $\nu(CC)$ and $\nu(CN)$ Raman modes of the molecule-based magnets M[TCNE](NCMe)₂X ALEXANDER E. MIDG-LEY, University of Missouri-Kansas City, KONSTANTIN POKHODNYA, C. OL-SON, North Dakota State University, A.N. CARUSO, MICHAEL B. KRUGER, University of Missouri-Kansas City — M[TCNE] (M=V, Fe, Mn, Co, Ni; TCNE=tetracyanoethylene) molecule-based magnets demonstrate high magnetic ordering due to a strong antiferromagnetic interaction between the unpaired d- and p-electrons of the metal ions and the ligands; however, the type of bonding involved in the superexchange mechanism remains unclear. The Raman active C=C vibration depends solely upon the degree of charge transfer from the metal ion to the π^* antibonding orbital of the ligand, therefore the strength of the vibration is only sensitive to backbonding. Raman spectra of the $M[TCNE](NCMe)_2X$ (M=Fe, Mn, Ni; $X = FeCl_4$, SbF_6) molecule-based magnets were collected in a diamond anvil cell at pressures up to 36 kbar. The observed pressure-induced strengthening of the $\nu(CC)$ and $\nu(CN)$ Raman modes provides a clearer picture of the type and degree of backbonding, which will ultimately help build a model of how superexchange is occurring in these systems.

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