Sandwiched between iron and nickel, cobalt has not always enjoyed the interest that has been showered on its more famous neighbors. Yet the last few years has seen a steady rise in interest in cobalt-catalyzed transformations. The fact that it is considered a base metal makes it particularly attractive when it may replace rarer, more expensive metals. More importantly, it is increasingly credited with facilitating a wide range of modern transformations in synthetic chemistry. These include: the venerable Pauson-Khand annulation, substitution reactions, epoxide opening, Mannich additions, arene couplings, functionalization of quinolines, hydroboronation, and C–H functionalization. SYNTHESIS and Thieme are proud to provide in this Special Topic a curated collection of reports describing important advances in chemistry mediated by cobalt and its complexes. We trust the readers will enjoy the cutting edge chemistry found in this issue and be inspired to innovate!
**E. Balaraman**

* Simple & Efficient
* Practical condition
* Broad substrate scope
* Functional group tolerance

**J. A. Gladysz**

**B. Sundararaju**

**J.-L. Niu**

**M.-P. Song**

**X. Verdaguer**

**A. Riera**

**A. Cabré**

**P. Knochel**