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Temporal separation of distinct differentiation pathways by a dual specificity Rap-Phr system in *Bacillus subtilis*

Wiep Klaas Smits, Cristina Bongiorni, Jan-Willem Veening, Leendert W. Hamoen, Oscar P. Kuipers and Marta Perego

Legends to Supplementary Figures

Fig. S1: ComK and RghR can bind simultaneously to the promoter of *rapH*. **A.** Sequence of the upstream region of *rapH* and the start codon (white box, start) are derived from SubtiList (<http://genolist.pasteur.fr/SubtiList/>). Putative binding sites for RghR (RghR, in yellow), as well as the core promoter elements (-35 and -10, in gray) and transcriptional start site (+1), were determined by Hayashi and coworkers (Hayashi et al., 2006). The putative ComK binding site (K), composed of two AT boxes (AT1 and AT2), is postulated on the basis of the published consensus sequence (Hamoen *et al.*, 1998) and the position compared to the core promoter elements (Hamoen *et al.*, 2002). It has to be noted that another ComK binding-site can be identified that overlaps the promoter elements (Berka *et al.*, 2002; Hamoen *et al.*, 2002). **B.** Electrophoretic mobility shift assays of a [γ -³²P]-ATP labeled *rapH* promoter fragment in the presence of purified ComK and/or RghR. Grey bars indicate shifted complexes of DNA and protein, small triangles indicate super-shifted complexes. A black bar indicates free probe. X marks the lane to which no protein was added. ComK was added to a final concentration of 300 nM.

Fig. S2: Analysis of the genome-wide transcriptional effect of RapH/PhrH overexpression in strains isogenic with 168 (*trpC2*) (Kunst *et al.*, 1997). Genes significantly affected in a CyberT analysis (see Experimental procedures) were analyzed using FIVA software (Blom *et al.*, 2007) **A.** Effect of RapH/PhrH overproduction in Spizizen minimal medium. **B.** Effect of RapH/PhrH overproduction in Schaeffer's sporulation medium.

Fig. S3: Time course analysis of *abrB-gfp* reporter strains grown in MMF medium supplemented with 1% xylose as indicated in Experimental procedures. **A.** Wild type strain **B.** Strain XH, ectopically overexpressing RapH/PhrH from a xylose inducible promoter. Strains were grown in the presence (grey) or absence (red) of xylose. Colors are darker at later timepoints. Note the down-regulation of *abrB* transcription, as indicated by lower levels of fluorescence, in wild type or uninduced XH strains.

Fig. S4: *RapH* interacts with ComA and inhibits its DNA-binding activity. **A.** RapA does not interact with ComA in the native gel binding assay. Each protein was at 12 μ M final concentration. **B.** RapA does not inhibit the DNA binding activity of ComA. X: labeled probe only; RapA (lane 2: 5 μ M, triangle: 5, 10 and 20 μ M); ComA (5 μ M). **C.** RapH does not interact with DegU in the native gel binding assay. H: RapH; U: DegU; each protein was at 10 μ M final concentration. Native gel analysis was carried out on 10% native Tris-Tricine gels as described in Bongiorni *et al.* (Bongiorni *et al.*, 2005).

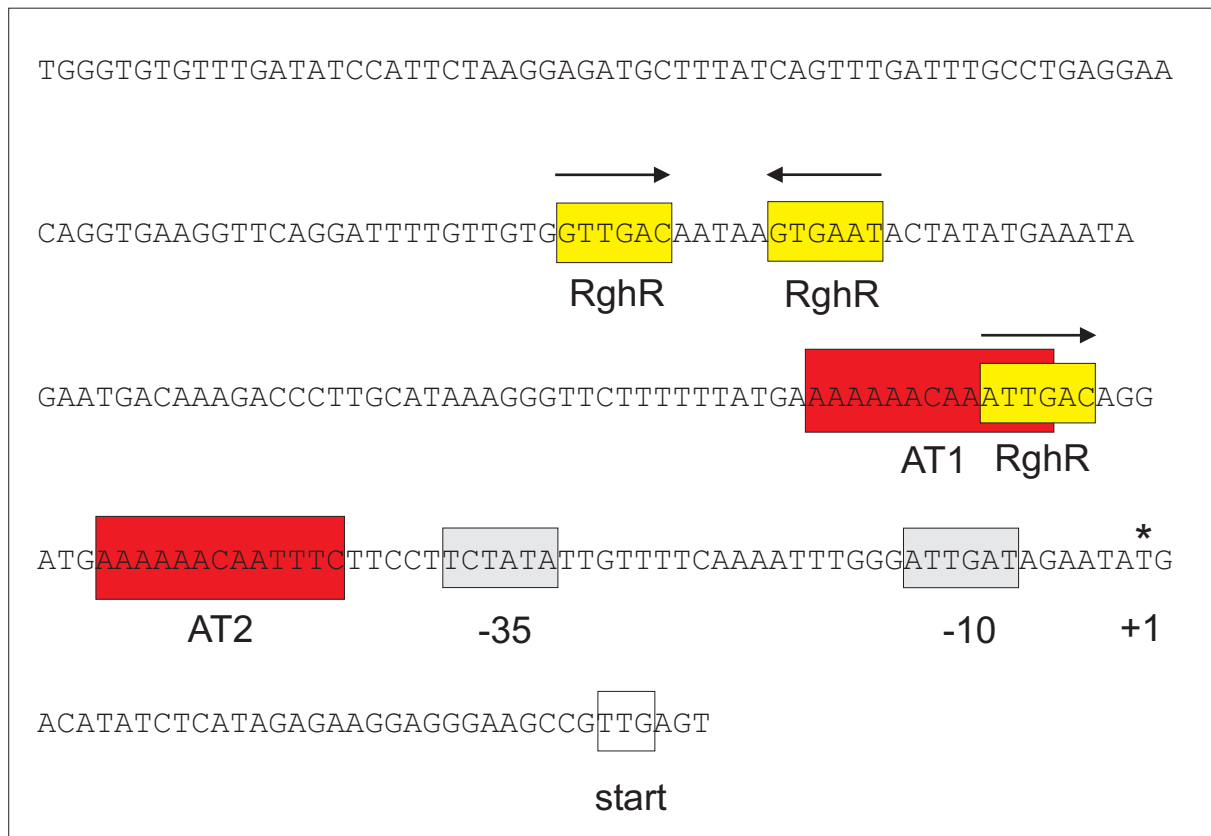
Fig. S5: Time course of β -galactosidase activity of a *srfA-lacZ* (**A**) and a *rapA-lacZ* (**B**) reporter constructs in the following background strains: wild type (-■-); *spo0A* (-●-); *spo0AabrB* (-◆-). Strains were all isogenic to JH642 (*trpC2*, *phe-1*). Cells were grown in Schaeffer's sporulation medium. Samples were taken at hourly or half hourly intervals to represent the time of transition from exponential growth to stationary phase.

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Figure S1 Smits *et al.*

A



B

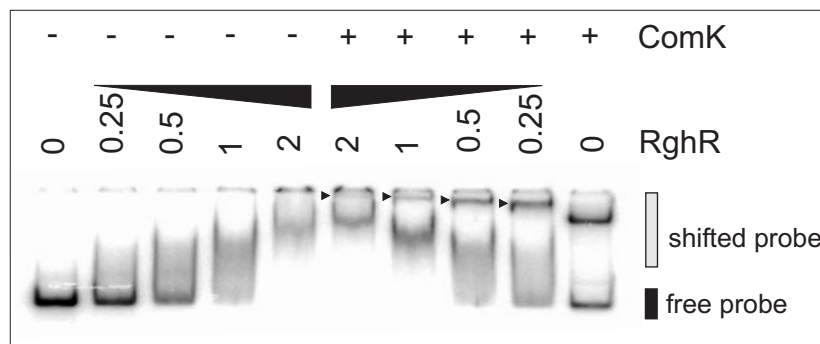
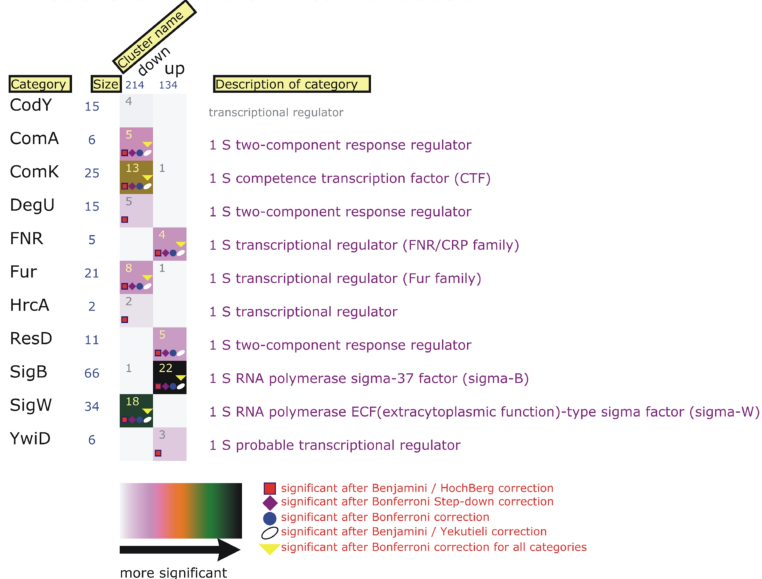


Figure S2 Smits *et al*

Interaction Occurrences Plot of method: MMInteractions



Interaction Occurrences Plot of method: SMInteractions

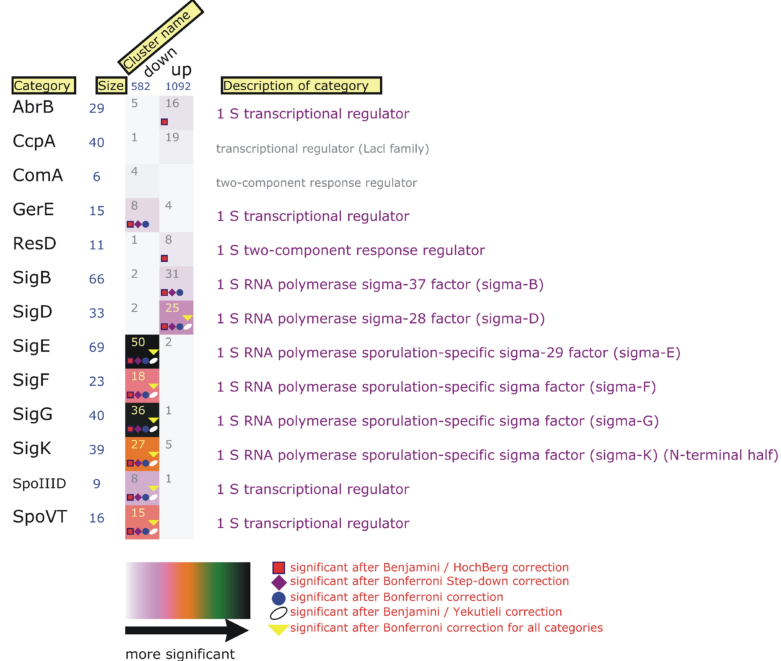


Figure S3 Smits *et al*

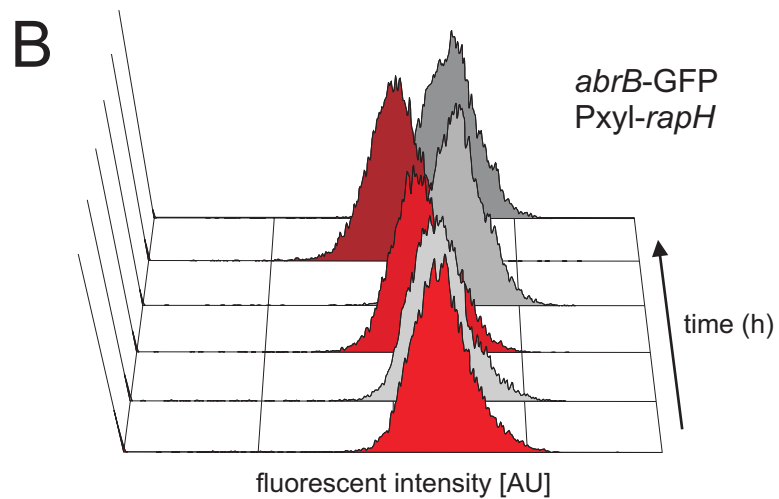
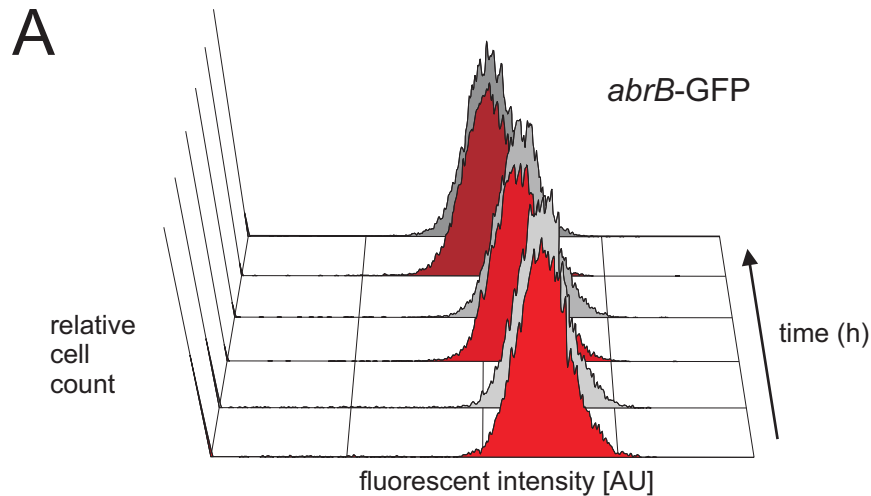


Fig. S4 Smits *et al.*

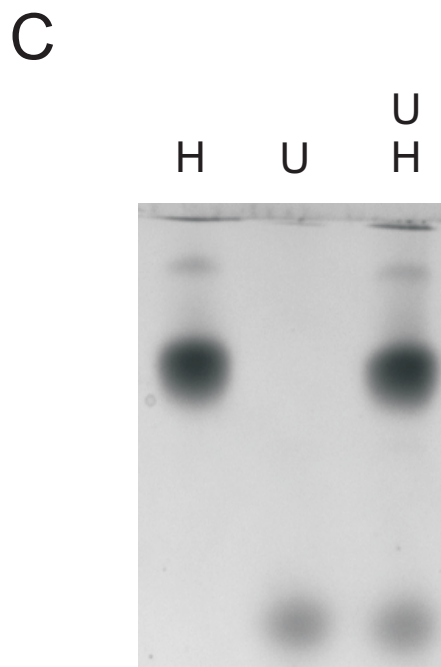
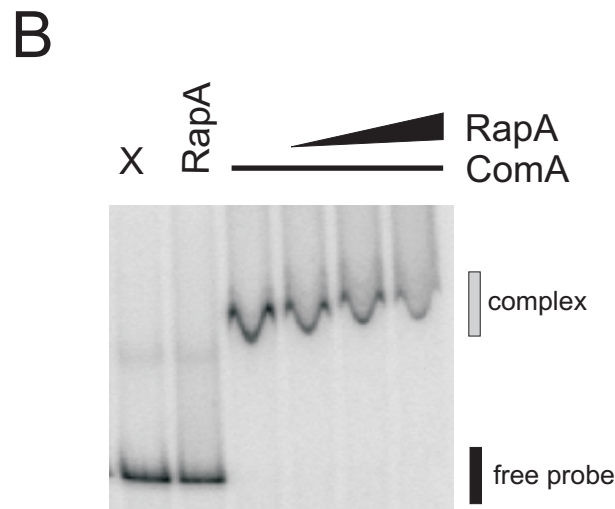
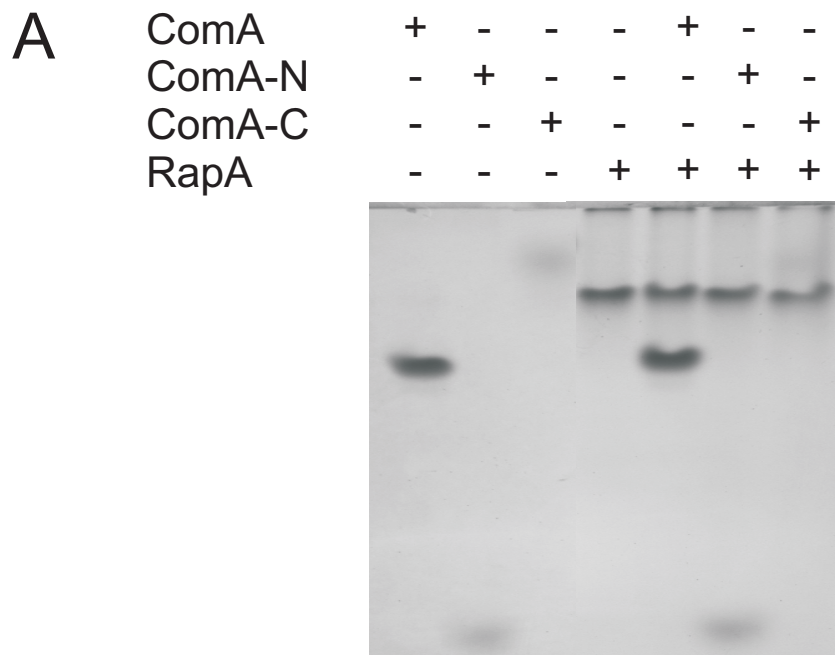


Figure S5 Smits *et al.*

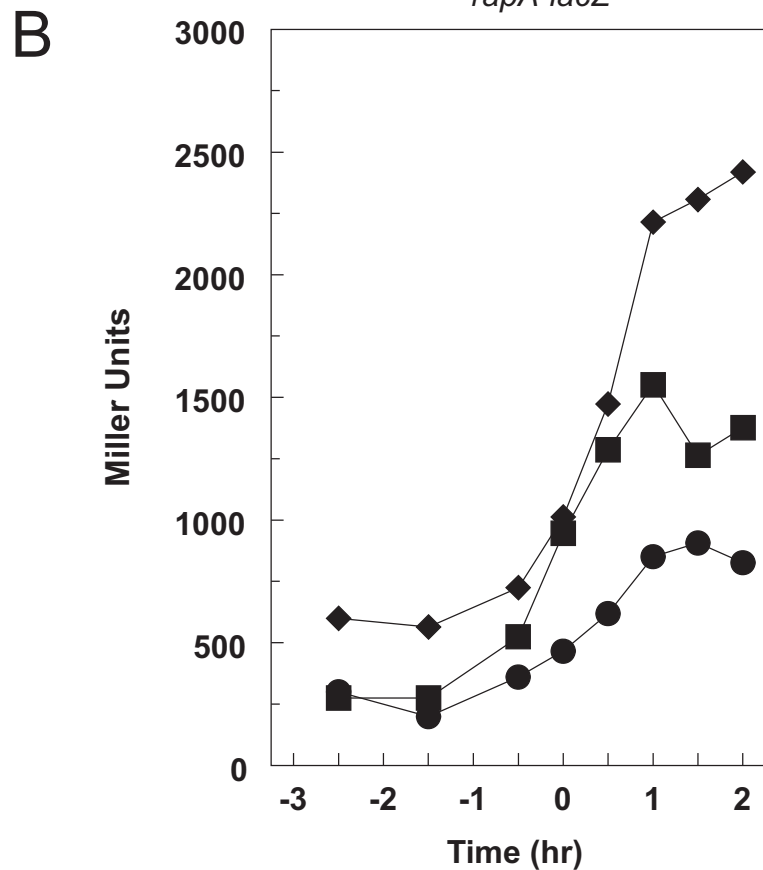
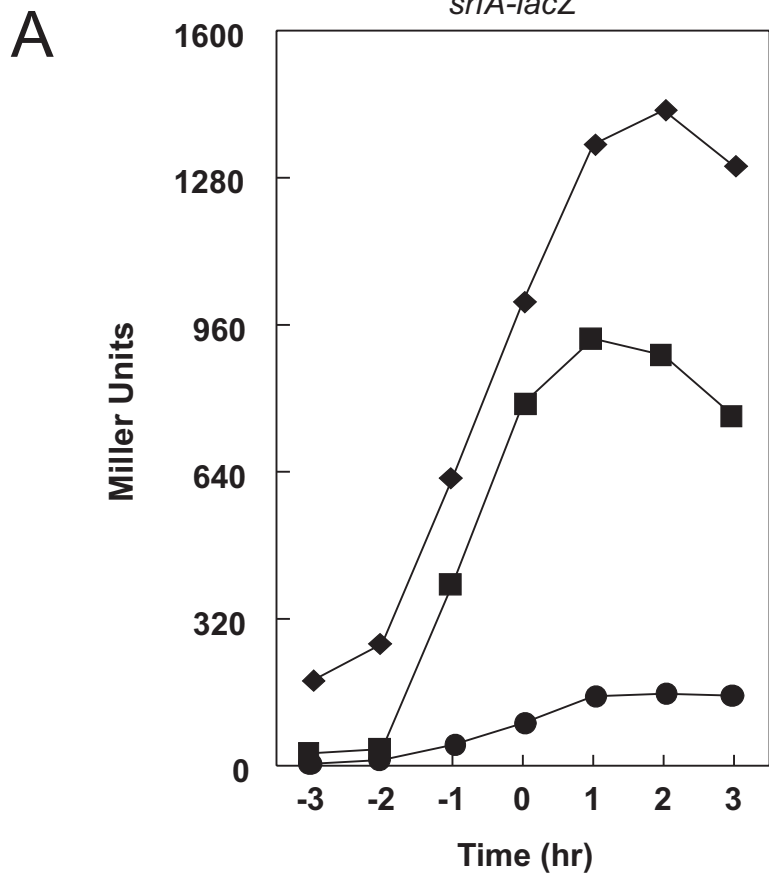


Table S1: <i>B. subtilis</i> strains used in this study			
Strain	Description	Relevant Genotype⁶	Reference
168 ¹	parental	<i>trpC2</i>	(Kunst <i>et al.</i> , 1997)
yvaN	deletion of <i>yvaN</i>	<i>yvaN::tet</i>	This study
Htet	deletion of <i>rapH</i> and <i>phrH</i>	<i>rapH-phrH::tet</i>	This study
HIC	pICFP- <i>rapH</i> →x ³ 168	<i>PrapH-icfp, cat</i>	This study
XH(Cm)	pXrapHphrH →xx ⁴ 168	<i>amyE, rapH^{hi7}-phrH^{hi}, cat</i>	This study
XH(Em)	pCm::Em →xx XrapH(Cm)	<i>amyE, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}, erm</i>	This study
GAY(Cm)	pSG-comGAYFP →x 168	<i>PcomGA-yfp, cat</i>	This study
GAC(Cm)	pSG-comGACFP →x 168	<i>PcomGA-cfp, cat</i>	This study
GAY(Em)	pCm::Em →xx GAY(Cm)	<i>PcomGA-yfp, erm</i>	This study
GAC(Em)	pCm::Em →xx GAC(Cm)	<i>PcomGA-cfp, erm</i>	This study
abrB-gfp	pGFP- <i>abrB</i> →x 168	<i>PabrB-gfp, cat</i>	(Veening <i>et al.</i> , 2006a)
abrB-gfp XH	XH(Em) → ⁵ <i>abrB-gfp</i>	<i>PabrB-gfp, amyE, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}, cat, erm</i>	This study
iyfp-IIA	pIYFP- <i>spollA</i> →x 168	<i>PspollA-iyfp, cat</i>	(Veening <i>et al.</i> , 2004)
IIA-IY(Sp)	pCm::Sp →xx iyfp-IIA	<i>PspollA-iyfp, spc</i>	This study
GAC IIA-IY	GAC → IIA-IY (Sp)	<i>PcomGA-cfp, PspollA-iyfp, cat, spc</i>	This study
GAC IIA-IY Htet	Htet → GAC IIA-IY	<i>PcomGA-cfp, PspollA-iyfp, rapH-phrH::tet, cat, spc</i>	This study
IIA-gfp	pGFP- <i>spollA</i> →x 168	<i>PspollA-gfp, cat</i>	(Veening <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
IIA-gfp XH	XH(Em) → IIA-gfp	<i>PspollA-gfp, amyE, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}, cat, erm</i>	This study
srfA-gfp	pGFP- <i>srfA</i> → x168	<i>PsrfA-gfp, cat</i>	This study
srfA-gfp 0A	SWV215 → <i>srfA-gfp</i>	<i>PsrfA-gfp, spo0A::kan, cat</i>	This study; spo0A from SWV215 (Xu and Strauch, 1996)
srfA-gfp abrB	Δ <i>abrB</i> → <i>srfA-gfp</i>	<i>PsrfA-gfp, abrB::erm, cat</i>	This study; <i>abrB</i> (Smits <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
srfA-gfp Psp-abrB	<i>Pspac-abrB</i> →xx <i>srfA-gfp</i>	<i>PsrfA-gfp, Pspac-abrB, amyE, cat, spc</i>	This study; Pspac- <i>abrB</i> from BD2238 (Hahn <i>et al.</i> , 1995)
srfA-gfp XH	XH(Em) → <i>srfA-gfp</i>	<i>PsrfA-gfp, amyE, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}, cat, ermⁱ</i>	This study
GA-gfp	pSG-comGA →x 168	<i>PcomGA-gfp, cat</i>	(Veening <i>et al.</i> , 2006b)
GA-gfp(Km)	pGA-GFP →x 168	<i>PcomGA-gfp, kan</i>	This study; pGA-GFP (Smits <i>et al.</i> , 2005)

GA-gfp comK	BV2004 → GA-gfp	<i>PcomGA-gfp, comK::spc, cat</i>	This study; comK from BV2004 {Hamoen, 2002 6 /id}
GA-gfp Htet	Htet → GA-gfp	<i>PcomGA-gfp, rapH-phrH::tet, cat</i>	This study
GA-gfp(Km) XH(Cm)	XH(Cm) → GA-gfp(Km)	<i>PcomGA-gfp, amyE, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}, cat, kan</i>	This study
GA-gfp XH(Em)	XH(Em) → GA-gfp	<i>PcomGA-gfp, amyE, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}, cat, erm</i>	This study
GAY HIC	HIC → GAY(Em)	<i>PcomGA-yfp, PrapH-icfp, erm, cat</i>	This study
GAY HIC Phs-comK	BD3836 → GAY HIC	<i>PcomGA-yfp, PrapH-icfp, amyE, Phyperspank-comK, erm, cat, spc</i>	This study; <i>Phs-comK</i> from BD3836 (Maamar and Dubnau, 2005)
GAY HIC comK	8G32 → GAY HIC	<i>PcomGA-yfp, PrapH-icfp, comK::kan, erm, cat</i>	This study
GAY HIC yvaN	yvaN → GAY HIC	<i>PcomGA-yfp, PrapH-icfp, yvaN::tet, erm, cat</i>	This study
GAY HIC yvaN comK	GAY HIC <i>comK</i> → GAY HIC <i>yvaN</i>	<i>PcomGA-yfp, PrapH-icfp, yvaN::tet, comK::kan, erm, cat</i>	This study
JH642 ²	parental	<i>trpC2, phe-1</i>	
JH11028	<i>rapA-lacZ</i> in <i>amyE</i> in <i>spo0A/abrB</i> double mutant	<i>rapA-lacZ, spo0A12, abrB::cat, kan</i>	(Perego <i>et al.</i> , 1988; Stephenson <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
JH12981	<i>rapA-lacZ</i> in <i>amyE</i>	<i>rapA-lacZ, amyE, kan</i>	(Stephenson <i>et al.</i> , 2003)
JH11432	<i>abrB-lacZ</i> in <i>amyE</i>	<i>abrB-lacZ, amyE, spc</i>	(Strauch <i>et al.</i> , 1989)
JH11205	<i>comG-lacZ</i> in <i>amyE</i>	<i>comG-lacZ, amyE, kan</i>	This study
JH11694	<i>srfA-lacZ</i> in <i>amyE</i>	<i>srfA-lacZ, amyE, kan</i>	This study
JH12546	<i>spo0A abrB</i> double mutant	<i>spo0A12, abrB::Tn917erm</i>	(Perego <i>et al.</i> , 1988)
JH27087	pBS19 → JH11205	<i>comG-lacZ, amyE, kan, cat</i>	This study
JH27088	pBS19-RapH2 → JH11205	<i>comG-lacZ, amyE, kan, cat, rapH^{hi}7</i>	This study
JH27089	pBS19-RapH3 → JH11205	<i>comG-lacZ, amyE, kan, cat, rapH^{hi}, phrH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH27090	pBS19 → JH12981	<i>rapA-lacZ, amyE, kan, cat</i>	This study
JH27091	pBS19-RapH2 → JH12981	<i>rapA-lacZ, amyE, kan, cat, rapH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH27092	pBS19-RapH3 → JH12981	<i>rapA-lacZ, amyE, kan,, cat, rapH^{hi}, phrH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH27093	pBS19 → JH11432	<i>abrB-lacZ, amyE, spc, cat</i>	This study
JH27094	pBS19-RapH2 → JH11432	<i>abrB-lacZ, amyE, spc, cat, rapH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH27095	pBS19-RapH3 → JH11432	<i>abrB-lacZ, amyE, spc, cat, rapH^{hi}, phrH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH19207	pHT315S → JH11028	<i>rapA-lacZ, amyE, kan, spo0A12, abrB::cat, erm</i>	This study

JH19208	pHT315S-RapH2 → JH11028	<i>rapA-lacZ, amyE, kan, spo0A12, abrB::cat, erm, rapH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH19209	pHT315S-RapH3 → JH11028	<i>rapA-lacZ, spo0A12, abrB::cat, erm, amyE, kan, rapH^{hi}-phrH^{hi}</i>	This study
JH27096	pJM115-RapHlac → JH642	<i>rapH-lacZ, amyE, kan</i>	This study
JH27097	QB4721 → JH27096	<i>rapH-lacZ, amyE, kan, comK::cat</i>	This study; QB4721 from Msadek <i>et al</i> (Msadek <i>et al.</i> , 1994)
JH19239	JH11694 → JH12546	<i>srfA-lacZ, spo0A12, abrB::Tn917erm, amyE, kan</i>	This study
JH27117	Htet → JH19239	<i>srfA-lacZ, spo0A12, abrB::Tn917erm, amyE, kan, rapH::tet</i>	This study

- 1) Following strains are all derivatives of strain 168 and therefore carry the *trpC2* auxotrophic marker.
- 2) Following strains are all derivatives of JH642 and therefore carry the *trpC2*, *phe-1* auxotrophic markers.
- 3) →x: indicates construction by transformation with plasmid DNA followed by single cross over homologous recombination.
- 4) →xx: indicates construction by transformation with plasmid DNA followed by double cross over integration.
- 5) →: indicates construction by transformation using chromosomal DNA or a replicative plasmid as donor.
- 6) Antibiotic resistance genes: *cat*=chloramphenicol; *erm*=erythromycin; *kan*=kanamycin; *spc*=spectinomycin, *tet*=tetracyclin.
- 7) ^{hi} indicates overproduction due to presence of multiple copies of the locus on a replicative plasmid (pBS19 derivatives), or overexpression by xylose induction (pX derivatives) or *spac* promoter constitutive transcription (pHT315S derivatives).

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Xu, K., and Strauch, M.A. (1996) Identification, Sequence, and Expression of the Gene Encoding Gamma-Glutamyltranspeptidase in *Bacillus subtilis*. *J Bacteriol* **178**: 4319-4322.

Table S2: Plasmids used in this study		
Plasmid	Description	Reference
pGEM-T Easy	Cloning vector	Promega
pGT- <i>yvaN</i>	pGEM-T Easy derived vector containing a fragment of the <i>B. Subtilis</i> chromosome encompassing the <i>yvaN</i> gene	This study
pGT- <i>yvaN</i> -1514	pGT- <i>yvaN</i> derived vector where the <i>yvaN</i> ORF has been replaced with a tetracyclin resistance marker	This study
pICFP	Cloning vector for making C-terminal fusions with <i>cfp</i> variant	(Veening <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
pICFP- <i>rapH</i>	pICFP derived vector containing the promoter region and part of the ORF of <i>rapH</i>	This study
pSG1151	Cloning vector for GFP C-terminal fusions	(Lewis and Marston, 1999)
pSG1186	Cloning vector for CFP C-terminal fusions	(Feucht and Lewis, 2001)
pSG1187	Cloning vector for YFP C-terminal fusions	(Feucht and Lewis, 2001)
pX	Integration vector containing a xylose inducible promoter	(Kim <i>et al.</i> , 1996)
pGFP- <i>srfA</i>	pSG1151-derived vector containing the <i>PsrfA</i> promoter fused	This study
pSG- <i>comGACFP</i>	pSG1186 derived vector containing <i>PcomGA</i> fused to CFP	This study
pSG- <i>comGAYFP</i>	pSG1186 derived vector containing <i>PcomGA</i> fused to YFP	This study
pX <i>rapHphrH</i>	pX derivative harboring the <i>rapHphrH</i> locus	This study
pCm::Em (pECE72)	Plasmid for the exchange of a chloramphenicol marker with a erythromycin marker	obtained from BGSC, (Steinmetz and Richter, 1994)
pCm::Sp (pECE74)	Plasmid for the exchange of a chloramphenicol marker with a spectinomycin marker	obtained from BGSC, (Steinmetz and Richter, 1994)
pGA- <i>gfp</i>	pUC-derived vector containing <i>PcomGA</i> fused to GFP	(Smits <i>et al.</i> , 2005)
pBS19	Replicative shuttle vector derivative of pBS42	(Band and Henner, 1984) and unpublished data
pHT315	Replicative shuttle vector	(Arantes and Lereclus, 1991)
pHT315S	Replicative shuttle vector containing the <i>spac</i> promoter	(Worner <i>et al.</i> , 2006)
pJM115	Transcriptional <i>lacZ</i> fusion vector Km ^R derivative of pDH32	(Perego, 1993)
pET28a	Vector for protein expression	Novagen
pET28-RapH	pET28 carrying the <i>rapH</i> coding sequence as a BamHI fragment	This study
pBS19-RapH2	pBS19 carrying the <i>rapH</i> gene and its promoter, 1350bp	This study
pBS19-RapH3	pBS19 carrying the <i>rapH-phrH</i> genes and their promoter, 1560bp	This study
pHT315S-RapH2	pHT315S carrying the <i>rapH</i> gene and its promoter, 1350bp	This study
pHT315S-RapH3	pHT315S carrying the <i>rapH-phrH</i> genes and their promoter, 1560bp	This study
pJM115-RapHlac	<i>rapH-lacZ</i> transcriptional fusion	This study

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Table S3: Oligonucleotide primers used in this study	
Oligonucleotide	Sequence
rapHup-F	GCGAACTTGCTGGAATATGG
rapHup-R	CGGGATCCACGGTATGGCTTGACTCAAC
rapHdown-F	GGGGTACCTTCCACATCGCGGCATTCT
rapHdown-R	TCGGCACGCTGTAAGTCTTC
RNlacZfw	GGTTTTCCCAGTCACGACGTTGTAA
RNlacZrv	GTGAGCGGATAACAATTTACACAGG
yvaNup-F	GGAAACTGCAGGGATTTCGCTTGCTACAAC
yvaNdown-R	GGAAACTGCAGGAACTCTGCCGCTTAGAT
yvaNdown-F	CGGGATCCCTGCTGATGACTGACTCTTG
yvaNup-R	CGGAATTCGCAATGCCCGTAATTGTTTCG
rapHFP-F	GGGGTACCTAGTTGCCAGGAAGAGCAT
rapHFP-R	AAAAGTGCAGGCTAAGGGCTTTCTTCTGATC
PrapHFP-R	GGAATTCGGAAGACGGTATGGCTTGAC
pXrapH-F	GCTCTAGAGAAGGAGGGAAGCCG
pXrapH-R	CGGGATCCCTAGCTAAGGGCTTTCTTC
srfA-F	CCCAAGCTTGCTGAGAGAGCGTGAGCAGGATATG
srfA-R	CGGAATTCATTTCTCTCTCTCTAATCTTTATAAGCAGTGAACATGTGC
RapH5'Kpn	TTTGAGGTACCTGAGGAACAGGTGAAGGTTT
RapH3'Bam2	CATCAGGATCCTTCTTATATGGCATATAAACAC
RapH3'Bam3	GAAGGGATCCGCGATGTGAAAATGGAAC
RapH5'Bam	GAAGGATCCTTGAGTCAAGCCATACC
RapHprom3'Bam	TTATAGGATCCATTAATCTTAACACCAAC
comG5'	CAGAAAGAATTCGTTTTTCAGCATATAACATC
comG3'	CGTAAGGGATCCGTTTTGCGGCTTTTCGCCTTTC
DegU5'	GCGTGGCATATGACTAAAGTAAACATTGTTATTATC
DegU3'	CTATTCTCGAGTCTCATTTCTACCCAGCCATTTTTAATG
srfAprromEco	TATGGAATTCATTGATATCGACAAAAATGTC
srfAprromBam	CTTACGGATCCCCGCAAGATTTGAAATG