Legends to Supplementary figures:

**Supplementary figure 1:** *Survivin 89-142 and Survivin C84A fail to localize to centromeres but do localize to midzone and midbody.* U2OS cells were grown on glass coverslips and co-transfected with Survivin siRNA, plasmids expressing VSV-tagged versions of the indicated Survivin proteins and with H2B-GFP to visualize the DNA. Cells were fixed in paraformaldehyde 14 hrs after release from a thymidine block. The exogenously expressed proteins were detected with mouse anti-VSV mAb (columns labeled "VSV"). Localization of VSV-tagged Survivin<sub>1-142</sub> (A), Survivin<sub>89-142</sub> (B) and Survivin<sub>C84A</sub> (C) in prometaphase, anaphase and telophase. The abnormal anaphases (B, lagging chromosomes) are a reflection of the failure of the Survivin<sub>89-142</sub> mutant to reconstitute Survivin function at the centromere.

**Supplementary figure 2:** *Phosphorylation of the Aurora B substrate CENP-A is impaired in Survivin-depleted and Survivin*<sub>1.89</sub>, *Survivin*<sub>89.142</sub> *and Survivin*<sub>C84A</sub> *reconstituted cells*. U2OS cells were grown on glass coverslips and co-transfected with Survivin siRNA, plasmids expressing the indicated Survivin proteins and with H2B-GFP to visualize the DNA. Cells were fixed in paraformaldehyde 14 hrs after release from a thymidine block. (A) Phosphorylated CENP-A and total CENP-A were detected with specific antibodies and per cell the intensity values of 20 kinetochores were determined. Per kinetochore the pixel intensity of phosphorylated CENP-A (pCA) was divided by the pixel intensity of total CENP-A (CA). Cells designated as bright the pCA/CA pixel intensities ranged from 1.13-1.58, weak ranged from 0.30-0.63 and cells scored as negative ranged from 0.01-0.09. (B) Percentages of H2B-GFP positive prometaphases with bright, weak or neg pCA/CA intensity levels. (C) In contrast to Aurora B localization, Aurora A localization is not affected by Survivin depletion. The reduced phosphorylation of CENP-A in Survivin knock-down is therefore not due to lack of Aurora A.

**Supplementary figure 3:** *Expression and localization of Borealin deletion mutants in Borealin/Dasra B depleted cells.* (A) Western blot of whole cell extracts (WCE) of U2OS cells co-transfected with Borealin siRNA and VSV-tagged full-length Borealin (1-280) and Borealin N-terminal (142-280) and C-terminal (1-141) deletion mutants. Blots were probed with anti-VSV mAb. (\*\*) indicates a background band. (B) Localization of exogenously expressed VSV-tagged full-length Borealin and its deletion mutants in the absence of endogenous Borealin (Borealin siRNA). The exogenous proteins were detected with an anti-VSV mAb.

## Lens et al. Supplementary figure 1

А			В			С		
surv 1-142			surv 89-142			surv C84A		
VSV (red)	H2B-GFP (blue)	merge	VSV (red)	H2B-GFP (blue)	merge	VSV (red)	H2B-GFP (blue)	merge
prometaphase	A.		prometaphase			prometapha	ise	
anaphase	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A		anaphase	₹.	5	anaphase	*	t (4
			anaphase	**	8			
telophase	*	۲.	telophase	ê 🛊	-	telophase		

Lens et al., Supplementary figure 2



## Lens et al. Supplementary figure 3





WCE: anti-VSV





