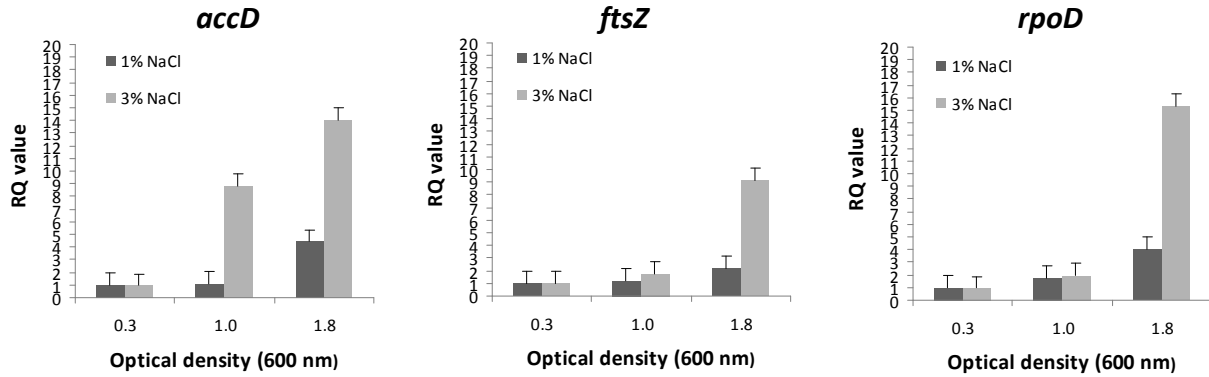


Supplement Figure 2



To verify the results determined by the qRT-PCR using 16S rRNA as endogenous control (Fig. 3), additional qRT-PCR experiments were performed. The wild type was cultivated in LB medium supplemented with 1% NaCl (LB1) and 3% NaCl (LB3) and harvested at different optical densities (600 nm). The CT values were normalized using *accD*, *ftsZ* and *rpoD* as reference genes and the relative expression (RQ) of *litR* was calculated by the $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$ method (38). *litR* was expressed in a cell density and salt dependent manner. Depending on reference, *litR* was expressed ~ 4 and 14 times more (*accD*), ~ 4 and 15 times more (*rpoD*) and ~ 2 and 9 times more (*ftsZ*) at $OD_{600} = 1.8$ compared to at $OD_{600} = 0.3$ in LB1 and LB3, respectively. Mean \pm SD from two independent experiments are shown.