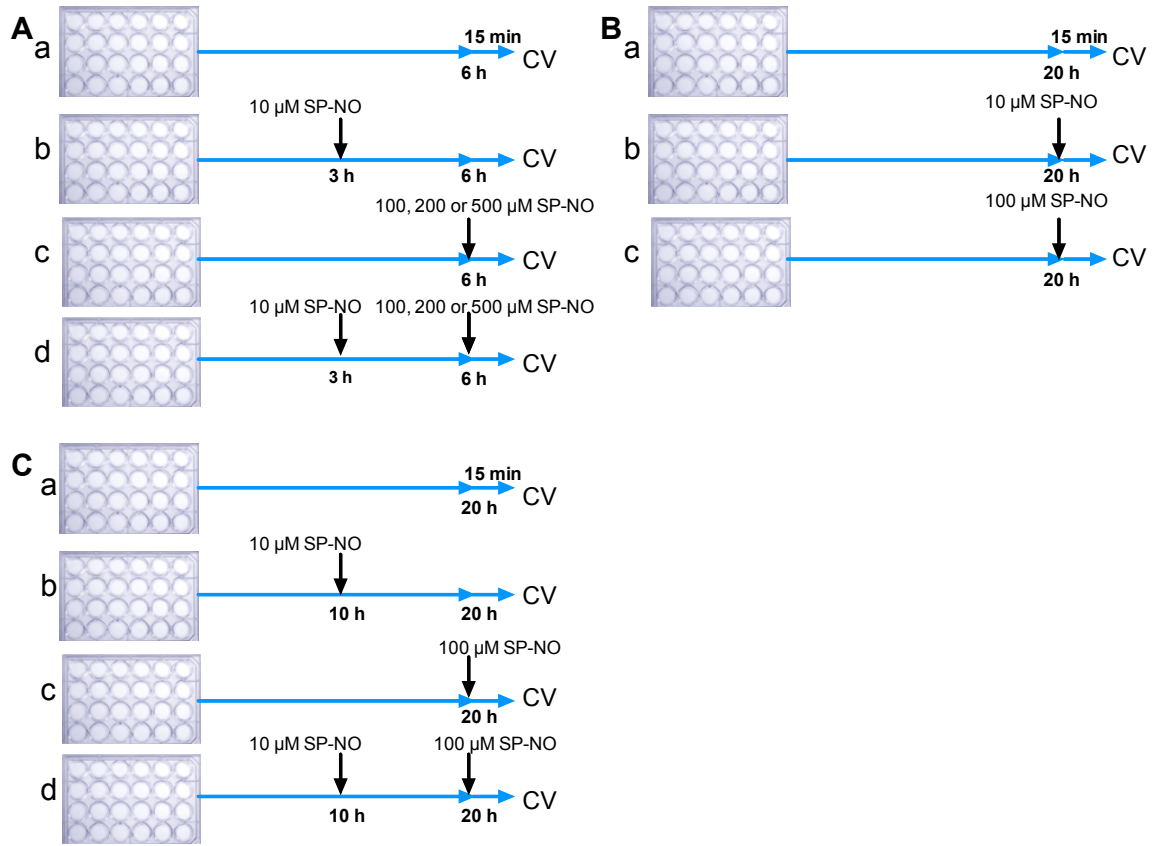


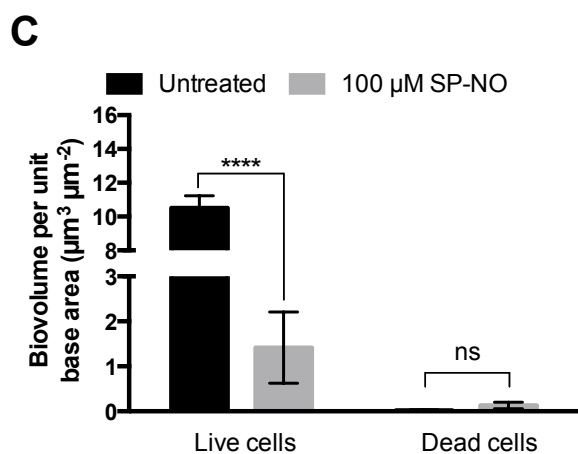
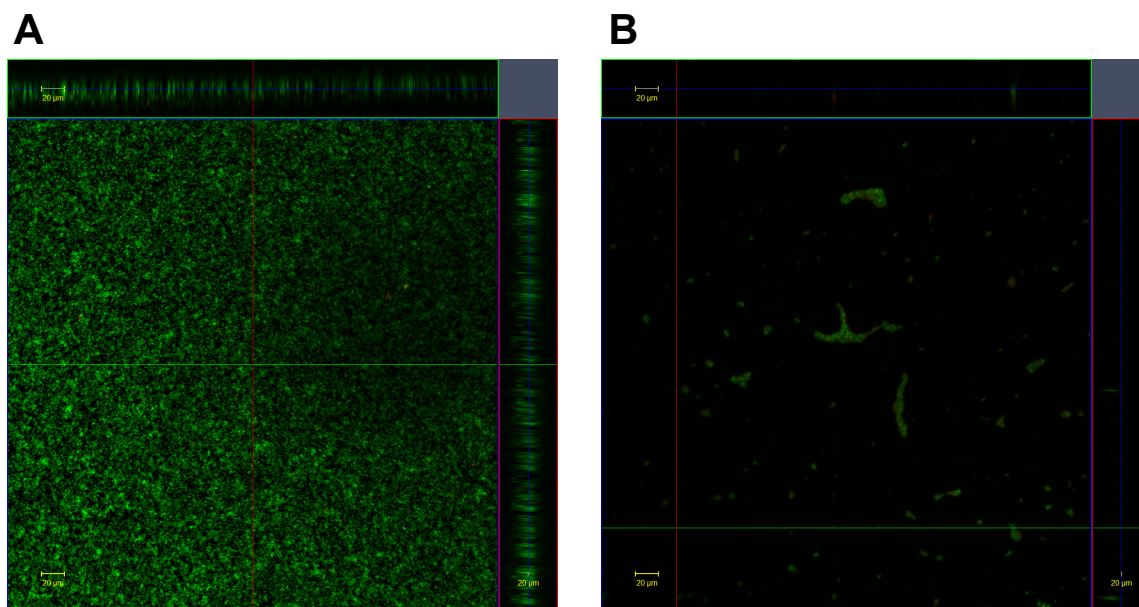
1



2

3 **FIG S1. Schematics of experiments shown in Fig. 1 (A), Fig. 6A (B) and Fig. 6B (C).** The arrows  
4 indicate the time (after inoculation) and concentration of NO addition for different experiments. For  
5 all NO treatments at 6 or 20 h, biofilms were incubated for 15 min before being assessed for biofilm  
6 biomass by crystal violet (CV) staining.

7



8

9 **FIG S2. Treatment with 100 μM SP-NO disperses biofilms and does not impact viability of**

10 **biofilm cells.** *P. aeruginosa* biofilms grown in multiwell plate batch cultures for 6 h and subsequently

11 left untreated (A) or treated with 100 μM SP-NO (B) for 15 min were stained with the LIVE/ DEAD

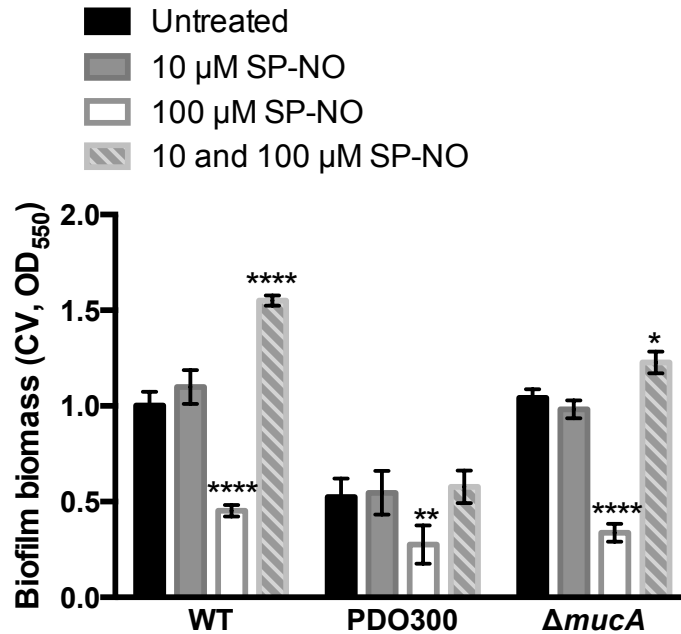
12 BacLight Bacterial Viability Kit where live cells appear green and dead cells stain red. Images of

13 untreated (A) and NO-treated (B) biofilms were acquired by CLSM. The main central images show

14 horizontal optical sections (x-y) of the biofilms, and the side and top panels show vertical optical

15 sections (x-z and y-z, respectively). Scale bars are 20 μm. Biofilm quantification (C) was performed

16 using IMARIS. Error bars indicate standard deviation (n = 6). Asterisks indicate statistically  
17 significant differences compared to untreated control samples (\*\*\*,  $P < 0.0001$ ). ns = No significant  
18 difference.  
19



20

21 **FIG S3. Biofilms of alginate-overproducing *P. aeruginosa* strains were also impaired**

22 **in their dispersal response after a pre-treatment with NO.** Biofilms of *P. aeruginosa*

23 wild-type (WT), PDO300 and  $\Delta mucA$  were grown in M9 minimal medium supplemented

24 with 0.4% glucose and 2% (w/v) casamino acid in multiwell plate batch cultures for a

25 total of 6 h 15, including or not a pre-treatment with 10  $\mu$ M SP-NO at t = 3 h (thus 3 h 15

26 exposure time), and a dispersal treatment with 100  $\mu$ M SP-NO at t = 6 h (thus 15 min

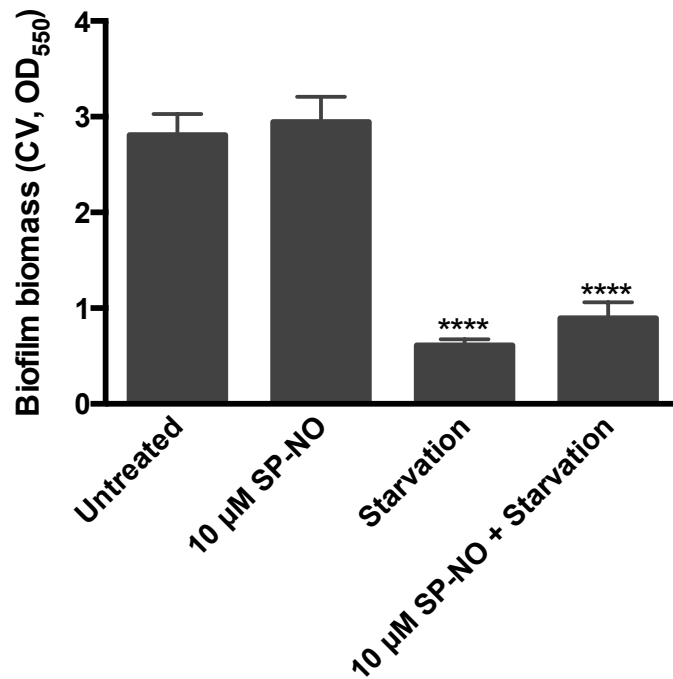
27 exposure time). At the end of the incubation, biofilm biomass was analyzed by CV

28 staining. Error bars indicate standard deviation (n = 3). Asterisks indicate statistically

29 significant differences compared to untreated control samples (\*,  $P < 0.1$ ; \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ;

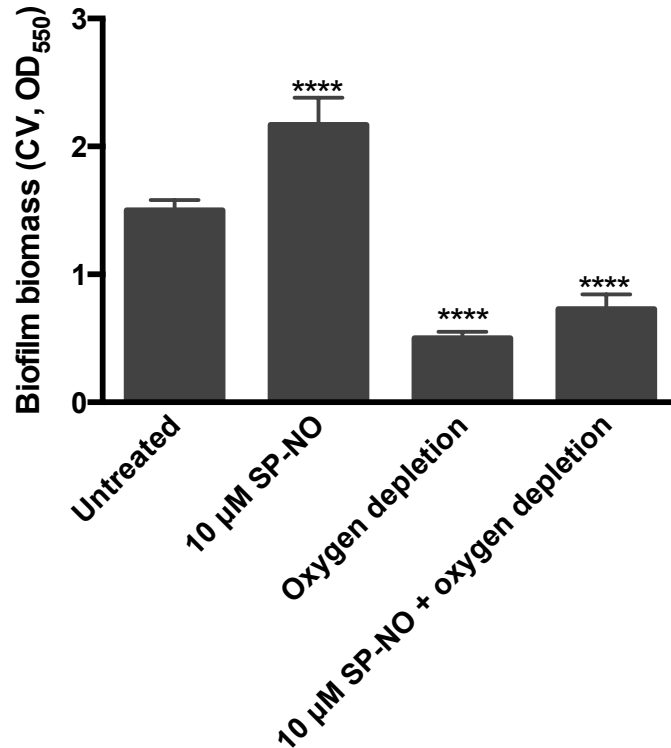
30 \*\*\*\*,  $P < 0.0001$ ).

31



32

33 **FIG S4. NO-pre-treated biofilms are dispersed by starvation.** *P. aeruginosa* biofilms  
 34 were grown in multiwell plate batch cultures for a total of 6 h 30 including or not a  
 35 pre-treatment with 10 μM SP-NO at t = 3 h and a dispersal treatment with fresh M9  
 36 medium in the presence (non-starvation) or absence (starvation) of 0.4% glucose at t = 6  
 37 h for 30 min. Error bars indicate standard deviation (n = 3). At the end of the incubation,  
 38 biofilm biomass was analyzed by CV staining. Asterisks indicate statistically significant  
 39 differences compared to untreated samples (\*\*\*\*, P < 0.0001).



40

41 **FIG S5. NO-pre-treated biofilms are dispersed by oxygen depletion.** *P. aeruginosa*

42 biofilms were grown in multiwell plate batch cultures for a total of 6 h 30 including or

43 not a pre-treatment with 10 μM SP-NO at t = 3 h and a dispersal treatment with oxygen

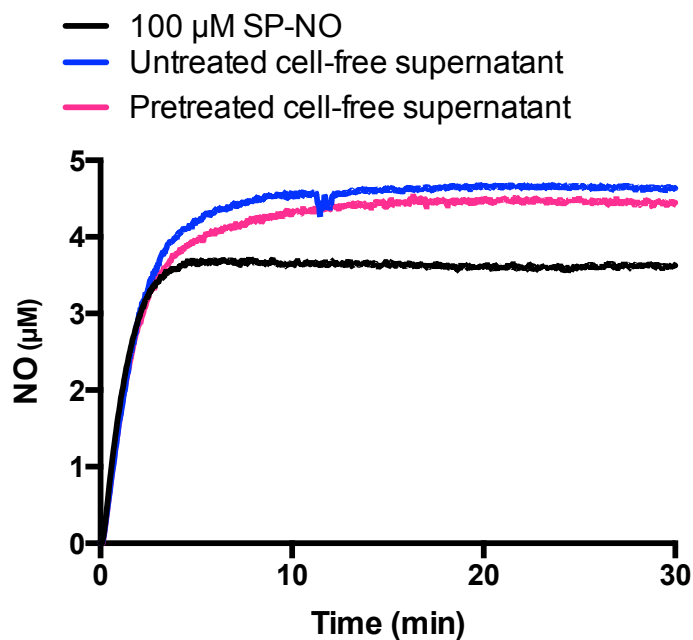
44 depletion at t = 6 h for 30 min. After 6 h of incubation with fast agitation at 180 rpm, the

45 shaking speed was maintained at 180 rpm or reduced to 60 rpm to reduce oxygen tension

46 and the biofilms were incubated for a further 30 min before CV staining. Error bars

47 indicate standard deviation (n = 3). Asterisks indicate statistically significant differences

48 compared to untreated samples (\*\*\*\*, P < 0.0001).



49

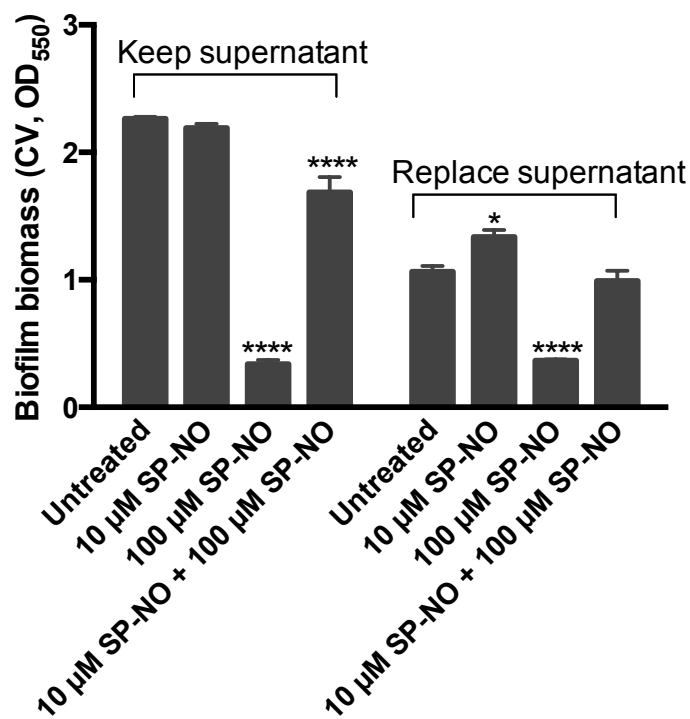
50 **FIG S6. NO-pre-treated *P. aeruginosa* cell-free supernatant does not scavenge NO.**

51 NO levels in solution liberated from 100 µM SP-NO were measured amperometrically, in

52 the absence or presence of *P. aeruginosa* cell-free supernatant. The cell-free supernatant

53 was grown in multiwell plates for 3 h and exposed to 10 µM SP-NO, incubated for a

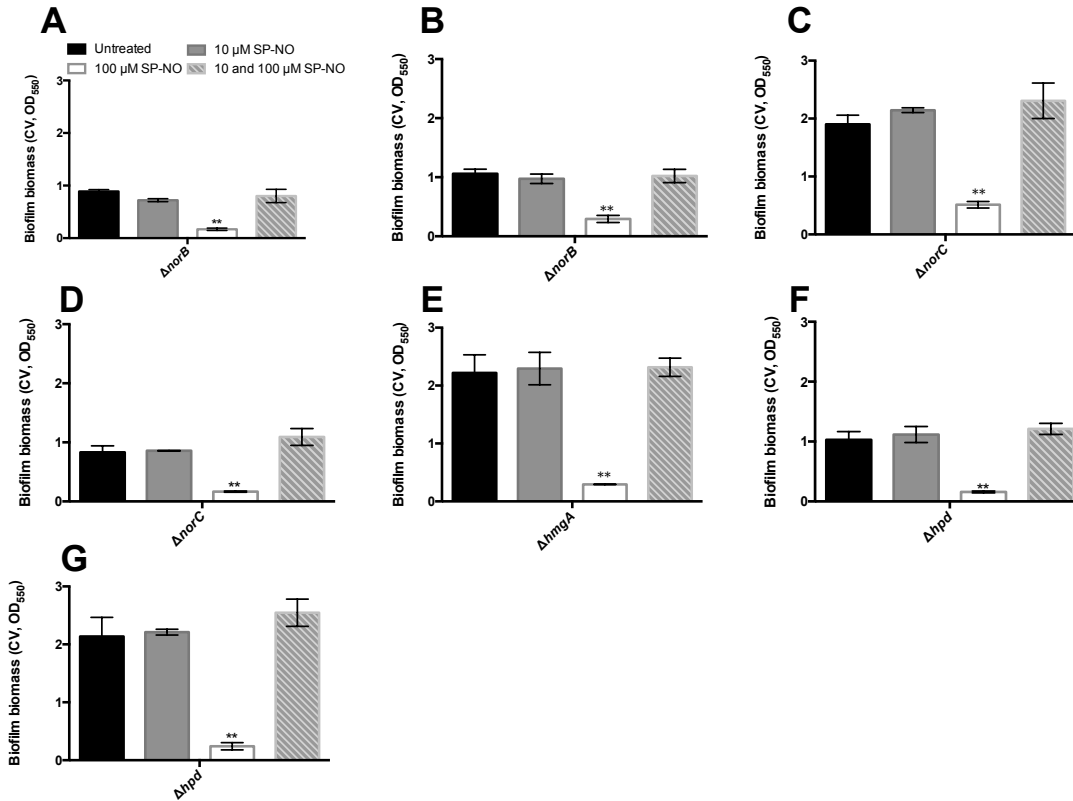
54 further 3 h (6 h total) before collection.



55

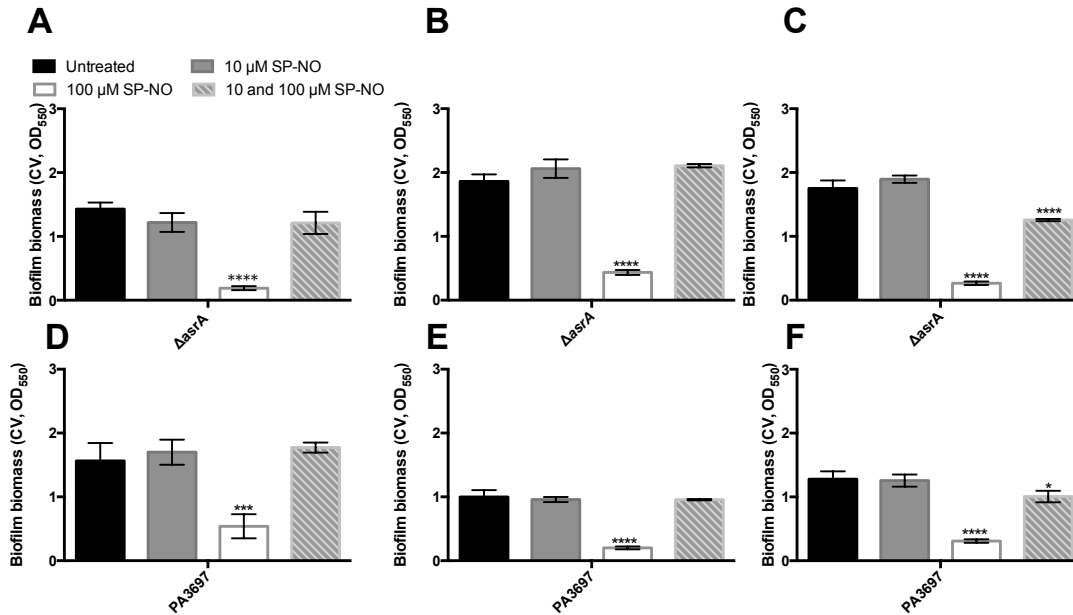
56 **FIG S7. Replacing the supernatant does not impact on NO pre-treatment-induced**  
 57 **impaired dispersal.** Biofilms were grown in multiwell plate batch cultures for 6 h. After  
 58 6 h, the biofilm culture supernatants were either replaced or not with fresh M9 medium in  
 59 the presence or absence of 100 μM SP-NO and the plates were incubated for a further 15  
 60 min, followed by assessment of total biofilm biomass by CV staining. For the  
 61 pretreatment experiments, biofilms were grown for 3 h, exposed to 10 μM SP-NO,  
 62 incubated for a further 3 h incubation (6 h total) before replacing the supernatant and  
 63 being exposed to 100 μM SP-NO. Error bars indicate standard deviation (n = 3).  
 64 Asterisks indicate statistically significant differences compared to untreated samples (\*, P  
 65 < 0.1; \*\*\*\*, P < 0.0001).





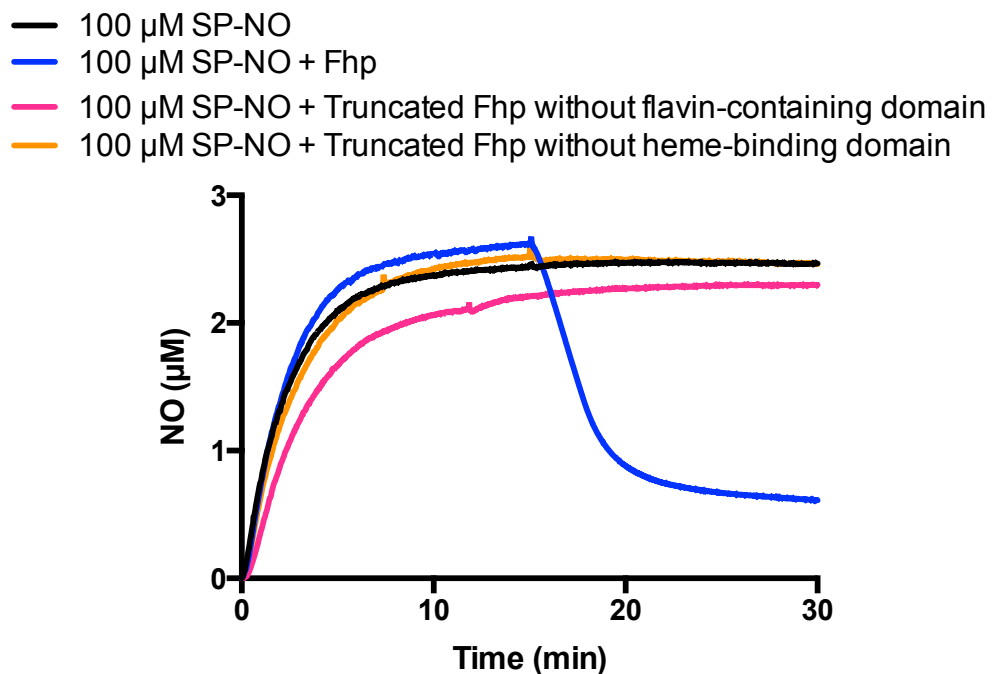
66

67 **FIG S8.** Biofilms of transposon mutant strains *ΔnorB* PW1962 *norB*-A04::IS*phoA*/hah  
68 (A) and PW1961 *norB*-A11::IS*phoA*/hah (B), *ΔnorC* PW1959 *norC*-B02::IS*lacZ*/hah (C),  
69 and PW1960 *norC*-H04::IS*phoA*/hah (D), *ΔhmgA* PW4489 *hmgA*-C03::IS*phoA*/hah (E),  
70 *Δhpd* PW2577 *hpd*-H01::IS*lacZ*/hah (F), and PW2578 *hpd*-H02::IS*lacZ*/hah (G) were  
71 grown in multiwell plate batch cultures for a total of 6 h 15, including or not a  
72 pre-treatment with 10 μM SP-NO at t = 3 h (thus 3 h 15 exposure time), and a dispersal  
73 treatment with 100 μM SP-NO at t = 6 h (thus 15 min exposure time). At the end of the  
74 incubation, biofilm biomass was analyzed by CV staining. Error bars indicate standard  
75 deviation (n = 3). Asterisks indicate statistically significant differences compared to  
76 untreated samples (\*\*, P < 0.01).



77

78 **FIG S9.** Biofilms of transposon mutants  $\Delta asrA$  PW2411 *asrA-A07::ISlacZ/hah* (A),  
79 PW2413 *asrA-G11::ISlacZ/hah* (B), and PW2414 *asrA-C03::ISlacZ/hah* (C),  $\Delta PA3697$   
80 PW7256 *PA3697-H04::ISlacZ/hah* (D), PW7257 *PA3697-C03::ISlacZ/hah* (E) and  
81 PW7258 *PA3697-D09::ISphoA/hah* (F) were grown in multiwell plate batch cultures for  
82 a total of 6 h 15, including or not a pre-treatment with 10  $\mu$ M SP-NO at t = 3 h (thus 3 h  
83 15 exposure time), and a dispersal treatment with 100  $\mu$ M SP-NO at t = 6 h (thus 15 min  
84 exposure time). At the end of the incubation, biofilm biomass was analyzed by CV  
85 staining. Error bars indicate standard deviation (n = 3). Asterisks indicate statistically  
86 significant differences compared to untreated samples (\*, P < 0.1; \*\*\*, P < 0.001; \*\*\*\*,  
87 P < 0.0001).



88

89 **FIG S10. NOD activity of purified Fhp and truncated Fhp.** NO released from 100  $\mu\text{M}$   
 90 SP-NO was measured amperometrically in 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.0,  
 91 containing 0.3 mM EDTA, 100  $\mu\text{M}$  NADPH, and 1  $\mu\text{M}$  FAD at room temperature. Fhp  
 92 and truncated Fhp were added 15 min after adding SP-NO.

93 **Table S1. Primers used in this work**

| Primer name        | Sequence (5' – 3')                    |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>fhp_for</i>     | ATTTTCGACCTCTTTGCAGTC                 |
| <i>fhp_rev</i>     | CTCCTTTTTCCGAAAAGGG                   |
| <i>fhp_RT_for</i>  | AATTACCTGCATGACCGGGTC                 |
| <i>fhp_RT_rev</i>  | CGGAAACAGATCCAGCTCGT                  |
| <i>rpoD_RT_for</i> | CCTGCGCCTGGTGATTT                     |
| <i>rpoD_RT_rev</i> | GTGGCGTAGGTGGAGAACTT                  |
| Fhp-f7852          | TACTTCCAATCCATGTTGTCCAATGCCCAACGTGC   |
| Fhp-r7876          | TATCCACCTTTACTGTCAGGCGTCCAGCGCGGCGG   |
| Fhp-r7880          | TATCCACCTTTACTGTCAATACACCGACTCCTCGGCC |
| Fhp-f7854          | TACTTCCAATCCATGGATGGCGGCTGGCGCGG      |
| Fhp-r7877          | TATCCACCTTTACTGTCACGGACCGAAGAACTCGTAG |

94