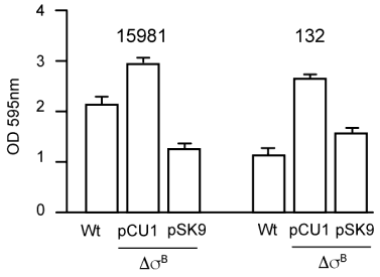

Figure S1: Biofilm formation capacity of *S. aureus* 15981 and 132 and their respective σ^B mutants complemented with pSK9 (σ^B) or pCU1 (empty plasmid) on polystyrene microtitre plates after 8 h.

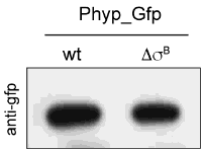

Figure S2: The Phyper promoter shows a constitutive activity that does not depend on σ^B. The *gfpmut2* gene was cloned under the phyper promoter leading to plasmid pCN52-Phyp_gfp. pCN52-Phyp_gfp plasmid was introduced in *S. aureus* 15981 wild-type and $\Delta\sigma$ mutant strains and an immunoblot of the Gfp protein was carried out.

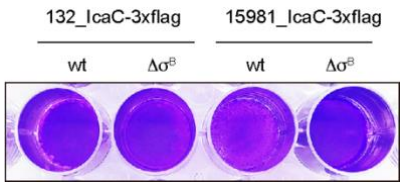

Figure S3: Biofilm formation of IcaC-tagged *S. aureus* 15981 and 132 strains and their respective σ^B mutants. Bacteria were grown on polystyrene microtitre plates for 24h. After washing, bacterial cells adhered to the polystyrene wells were stained with crystal violet and biofilms