Supplementary Information

 FtsN maintains active septal cell wall synthesis by forming a processive complex with the septum-specific peptidoglycan synthases in *E. coli*

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Supplementary Fig. 1. Sites used for mNG fusions to FtsN.

 mNG was fused to the N-terminus (orange), C-terminus (cyan) or inserted at internal positions (purple) of FtsN as shown by the amino acid numbers (left) and corresponding dots (right). The domain structure of FtsN is illustrated with different colors, which are the 37 N-terminal cytoplasmic domain (FtsN^{cyto}, blue), the transmembrane domain (FtsN™, pink), the periplasmic essential domain ($FtsN^E$) containing helices H1 (black), H2 (red), and H3 (black) with H2 being essential for FtsN function in cell division, and the C-terminal SPOR (black) with H2 being essential for FtsN function in cell division, and the C-terminal SPOR 40 domain (PDB 1UT[A](#page-43-0)¹, FtsN^{SPOR}, green). Numbers by the left side of the domain regions refer to the amino acid range of different domains.

M9-glucose, 37°C, 18 hr

	IPTG (μM)															0.2% Arab								
										10					100									
	$ND -1 -2$		-3	-5 -4	$ND -1$			-3 -4	-5	ND.					ND.		-3			$ND -1 -2 -3 -4 -5$				
$MG1655$ \bullet \bullet			● 3																	\circ				
$P_{BAD}:ftsN$																						\mathfrak{S}_3	$\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$	
$P_{\text{BAD}}::ftsN/FtsN$															R									
$P_{BAD}:$:ftsN/mNeG-FtsN	\bullet																						豂	
$P_{\text{BAD}}::ftsN/P12-mNeG-A13$				3<																			-23	
$P_{BAD}:ftsN/N28-mNeG-L29$																								
P_{BAD} ::ftsN/E60-mNeG-E61														35.7	\bullet									
P _{RAD} ::ftsN/K69-mNeG-V70														$\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{C})$										
$P_{\text{BAD}}::\text{ftsN}/\text{Q}113-m\text{NeG-L}114$																								
$P_{BAD}::ftsN/Q124-mNeG-M125$				**																				
P_{BAD} ::ftsN/Q151-mNeG-T152															-55									
$P_{BAD}::ftsN/Q182-mNeG-T183$															19									
$P_{BAD}::ftsN/Q212-mNeG-T213$																								
P _{pan} ::ftsN/FtsN-mNeG																								

Supplementary Fig. 2. Characterization of mNG-fused FtsN constructs.

 (A) To test for complementation on plates, cultures were serially diluted 10-fold, spotted onto M9-glucose plates containing increasing IPTG concentrations, and incubated at 37°C for 18 hrs. The protein expressed under IPTG control is indicated for each strain. M9- glucose plates containing 0.2% Arab to express chromosomal wildtype (WT) FtsN in each strain background serve as the positive control. Data were combined from two

 experiments. ND: no dilution. (B) Growth curves of MG1655 and FtsN-depletion strains expressing various fusions of mNG to FtsN in M9-glucose minimal media with no IPTG 52 (i.e., leaky expression) at 30°C (mean \pm *s.e.m.*, $n = 3$ biological replicates). The doubling to time was calculated from the growth curves (mean \pm standard deviation, $n = 3$ biological 53 time was calculated from the growth curves (mean \pm standard deviation, $n = 3$ biological sequences). The numbers on the x-axis are the strain numbers, which correspond to the replicates). The numbers on the x-axis are the strain numbers, which correspond to the strains listed left sequentially. (C) Septal localization of various mNG fusions to FtsN. MG1655 cells (no FtsN fusion) were imaged by immunofluorescence staining. Cells from other strains were grown in M9-glucose minimal media without induction. Experiment was repeated three times with similar results. Scale bar, 1 µm. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

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87 **Supplementary Fig. 3. Characterization of the mEos3.2-FtsN fusion strain.**

88 (A) To test for complementation on plates, cultures were serially diluted 10-fold, spotted 89 onto M9-glucose plates containing increasing IPTG concentrations, and incubated at 37°C 90 for 18 hrs. The protein expressed under IPTG control is indicated for the strain. ND: no 91 dilution. (B) Integrated green fluorescence images of mEos3.2-FtsN (Strain EC4443 in 92 Supplementary Table 1) were acquired by excitation at 488-nm without UV activation. 93 Please note that mEos3.2 is not as bright as GFP or mNG when serving as a green
94 fluorescent protein. Cells were grown in M9-glucose minimal media without induction. fluorescent protein. Cells were grown in M9-glucose minimal media without induction. 95 Experiment was repeated three times with similar results. Scale bar, 1 um.

Supplementary Fig. 4. Validation of FtsN fusions with mEos3.2, GFP, mNG and Halo integrated into a chromosomal phage attachment site in an FtsN-depletion strain background (EC1908).

101 (A-D) Western blots with anti-FtsN^{peri} sera showing the expression levels and stability of fusion proteins at different induction conditions. For all imaging experiments, the IPTG induction level was as shown in (E). Size markers are indicated to the left of each blot. Blots are representative of at least two trials. (E) Average cell length from 4 trials with ≥ 200 cells measured per trial. Cells were grown at room temperature in M9-glucose with 106 IPTG as indicated to OD_{600} ~0.35 before sampling for Western blotting or fixing for 107 microscopy. The strains shown in (A-C) and (E) are EC251 (WT FtsN), EC1908 (P_{BAD}::*ftsN* for FtsN depletion), EC4240 (GFP-FtsN), EC4443 (mEos3.2-FtsN), EC4564 (mNG-FtsN), 109 and EC5234 (FtsN-Halo^{sw}, insertion at E60-E61). Strains shown in (D) are EC251, EC5234, and EC5606. See more strain details in Supplementary Table 1. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 5. Quantitation of FtsN copy number in MG1655 and BW25113 strains.

118 (A and B) Representative Western blots using anti-FtsN^{peri} sera. The amount of FtsN in 1.9 \times 1.9 x 10⁷ cells of EC251 (A) and 1.7 x 10⁷ cells of BW25113 (B) was compared to a 120 standard curve generated by diluting purified His₆-FtsN periplasmic domain into the cell extracts. In the blots shown, the signal intensity of native FtsN in EC251 and BW25113 122 corresponded to 0.35 and 0.38 ng of His_{6} -FtsN^{peri}, respectively. (C) Average number of FtsN molecules per cell (bar) in two experiments (dots) for each strain. This calculation 124 takes into account differences in molecular mass (FtsN = 35.793 kDa, His₆-FtsN^{peri} = 31.856 kDa) and the number of cells loaded in each lane. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

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 Supplementary Fig. 6. Spatial resolution of 3D SMLM imaging and dimensions of FtsN- and FtsZ-rings.

 (A) Equation describing the distribution (*p*) of pair-wise distances (*r*) between nearest 131 neighbors in adjacent frames of live-cell SMLM data^{[2](#page-43-1)}. The first term represents the distribution expected for repeat observations of the same molecule with localization precision *σres*. The second term with Gaussian parameters *ω* and *d^c* accounts for the possibility that nearest neighbors in adjacent frames may not arise from the same

 molecule. (B) i-iii, Distributions of pair-wise distances between nearest neighbors in adjacent frames (gray bars) from SMLM imaging data along the x- (i), y- (ii), and z-axes (iii). Each histogram was fit using the equation in (A) to generate the black fitted curves. The achieved localization precision (*σres*) and spatial resolution (expressed as *FWHMres*) determined from these fitted curves are displayed as insets. iv: Distribution of Nyquist 140 resolution which was calculate[d](#page-43-2) as previously described³. (C) Distributions of resolution- deconvolved width (left) and thickness (right) of FtsN-rings (black, *n* = 72 cells) and FtsZ-142 \ldots rings (gray, $n = 103$ cells, data from a previous wor[k](#page-43-3)⁴). There are no significant differences in the dimensions between the FtsN- and FtsZ-rings. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 7. FRAP analysis of FtsN.

172 (A) A representative FRAP imaging sequence showing the recovery of fluorescence after
173 the photobleaching of half of the FtsN-ring (cyan arrow, Strain EC4240 in Supplementary the photobleaching of half of the FtsN-ring (cyan arrow, Strain EC4240 in Supplementary Table 1). An adjacent cell without photobleaching serves as the control (yellow arrowhead). Scale bar, 1 µm. (B) Mean FRAP recovery curve of FtsN from adjacent control cells (gray, *n* = 6 cells) showed no fluorescent intensity changed on the time scale of experiment. The global photobleaching was corrected by using the fluorescent intensity outside the septum. The FRAP curve was close to 0 after subtracting the first acquisition. See more details in the Methods section. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 8. FtsN clusters exhibit slow, directional motions.

 (A) i-ii, Maximum intensity projection (MIP) and montages from TIRF time-lapse imaging of two cells in which a cluster is moving (i, yellow arrow) or immobile (ii, green arrow). Scale bars, 500 nm. iii, Kymographs of the cells in (i and ii) computed from the intensity along a line across the midcell are shown. Scale bars, 250 nm. (B) Maximum intensity projection (MIP) and montages from TIRF-SIM time-lapse imaging of a fixed cell in which the clusters are immobile (left). Kymograph computed from the intensity along a line across the midcell (right). Scale bars, 500 nm. (C) Distributions of FtsN clusters' moving speeds as measured from the kymographs (TIRF, cyan, $v = 8.6 \pm 0.3$ nm s⁻¹, $\mu \pm$ s.e.m., $n = 113$ clusters; TIRF-SIM, magenta, $v = 8.8 \pm 0.3$ nm s⁻¹, $\mu \pm$ s.e.m., $n = 92$ clusters; 194 TIRF-SIM (fixed cells), gray, $v = 0.57 \pm 0.07$ nm s⁻¹, $\mu \pm$ s.e.m., $n = 65$ clusters). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

 Supplementary Fig. 9. Single- or double-population fitting of the cumulative probability density (CDF) of FtsN's directional moving speed distribution.

 Cumulative probability density (CDF) curve of the directional moving speed of FtsN molecules in WT MG1655 cells (black dots) was best fit by a single- (blue curve) instead of a double- (red curve) population (empirically using log-normal distribution to describe the long tail), as indicated by the residuals below. Error bars indicate *s.e.m.* from bootstrapping the CDF fitting 200 times.

Supplementary Fig. 10. Comparison of the speed distributions from SMT and TIRF-SIM.

 Distributions of single FtsN molecules' moving speeds from SMT (magenta, *n* = 256) and single FtsN clusters' moving speeds from TIRF-SIM (cyan, *n* = 92). The *p*-value of the two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) test for the two distributions is 0.15 (>0.05), indicating they are statistically identical. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

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Supplementary Fig. 11. Validation of Halo sandwich fusions to mutant FtsN proteins defective in interaction with FtsA.

(A) Western blot with anti-FtsN^{peri} sera documenting fusion protein expression and
222 effective depletion of native FtsN. Blot was deliberately overexposed to highlight the lack effective depletion of native FtsN. Blot was deliberately overexposed to highlight the lack of residual FtsN in these strains. Blot is representative of two experiments. (B) Average 224 cell length from two experiments with \geq 200 cells measured per experiment. Cells were grown in M9-glucose plus IPTG as indicated. Samples were taken for Western blotting 226 and microscopy at OD₆₀₀ \sim 0.35. Strains shown are EC251 (WT), EC1908 (P_{BAD}::*ftsN*), and EC1908 derivatives that express the indicated *ftsN* fusion under control of a modified *Trc* promoter (EC5234, EC5263, and EC5271). See more strain details in Supplementary Table 1. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 12. MTSES did not alter FtsN-HaloSW dynamics in the BW25113 WT strain.

 Speed distributions and the corresponding fit curves of the stationary (black) and moving 235 (red) populations of single FtsN-Halo^{sw} molecules in the BW25113 WT strain in the 236 absence (top, $n = 161$) or presence (bottom, $n = 176$) of MTSES. The identical fitted parameters shown in Supplementary Table 10 indicate that MTSES did not alter FtsN-238 Halo^{SW} dynamics in the BW25113 WT strain. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

 Supplementary Fig. 13. Comparison of the distributions of the speed (*V***), moving dwell time (***T_***moving), and processive running length (***PL***) of FtsN and FtsW in** *ftsI***R167S strain grown under the rich EZRDM growth condition and UppS overexpression condition.**

248 The difference between the distributions of FtsN and FtsW (data from a previous work⁵[\)](#page-43-4) under the same condition was determined to be insignificant by the two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) test. The calculated *p*-values were shown in Supplementary Table 11. The sample size of FtsN is listed in Supplementary Table 10. Both FtsN's and FtsW's histograms were bootstrapped 100 times to provide the shaded standard error bars (mean ± *s.e.m.*). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 14. Comparison of the speed distributions of FtsZ, FtsW, FtsI, FtsN, and FtsN^E in different FtsZ GTPase mutant backgrounds under the same growth condition.

260 (A) Histo[g](#page-43-5)rams of the speeds of FtsZ treadmilling⁶, Fts[W](#page-43-4)⁵, Ftsl¹⁴, and FtsN in the log- normal scale were overlaid with one- or two-population fitting curves (slow-moving population in red, fast-moving population in blue and overall fit curve in black dashed lines). 263 (B) Histograms of the speeds of $FtsN^E$ in different FtsZ GTPase mutant backgrounds in the log-normal scale were overlaid with two-population fitting curves (slow-moving population in red, fast-moving population in blue and overall fit curve in black dashed lines). 266 Strains used are JL339 (*ftsZ^{WT}*), JL421 (*ftsZ^{E250A}*) and JL422 (*ftsZ*^{G105S}), which contain *ftsB*E56A and *ΔftsN::kan* in addition to the indicated *ftsZ* allele. All the speed histograms, contain only the moving population but not the stationary population, were plotted in the log-normal scale to better compare with each other. The fitted fast speed was labelled as mean ± *s.e.m.,* where errors are from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three independent experiments. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

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Supplementary Fig. 15. Percentage and mean dwell time of stationary FtsN^E molecules increased with reduced FtsZ GTPase activity.

281 (A) Percentage (P_{stationary}) of stationary FtsN^E molecules increased with reduced FtsZ 282 GTPase activity. Data are presented as mean \pm error, where the error is the standard deviation from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three independent experiments. (B) 284 Average dwell time (T_{stationary}) of stationary FtsN^E molecules increased with reduced FtsZ GTPase activity. Data are presented as mean ± *s.e.m.* overlayed with corresponding data 286 points (shown as open circles. *ftsZ^{WT}*, *n* = 75; *ftsZ*^{E250A}, *n* = 97; *ftsZ*^{G105S}, *n* = 151). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

306 **Supplementary Table 1. Strains used in this study.**

309 **Supplementary Table 2. Plasmids used in this study.**

311 pDSW534. A 1706 bp fragment encoding *lac*^{Ω} and P_{204} :*:gfp* was obtained by digesting 312 pDSW254 with NdeI, SphI and XmnI. The fragment was ligated into pDSW499 after 313 digestion with NdeI and SphI.

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315 pDSW730. Amplify periplasmic domain of *ftsN* with primers P760 and P761. The 833 bp 316 fragment was digested with BamHi and HindIII, then ligated into the same sites of pQE-317 80L (Qiagen).

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319 pDSW1839. Amplify *gfp-ftsN* from pDSW238 with primers P2108 and P2109. The 1142 320 bp product was digested with MfeI and SacI, then ligated into the same sites of pDSW534. 321

322 pDSW1866. The P₂₀₄ promoter in pDSW984 was replaced with a weaker P_{204, 7A} promoter 323 using isothermal assembly to insert a 675 bp gBlock into the SfoI and NdeI sites of 324 pDSW984.

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326 pDSW1876. The P₂₀₄ promoter in pDSW1198 was replaced with a weaker P_{204, 7A} promoter 327 using isothermal assembly to insert a 675 bp gBlock into the Sfol and Ndel sites of **pDSW1198.** The *lac*^{Ω} allele is designated *lac* Ω^* because it was later found to have a frame shift mutation, a deletion of T999. The last 28 amino acids of wild-type LacI (NTQTASPRALADSLMQLARQVSRLESGQ) become KRKPPLPARWPIH. The mutant Lac repressor is still active but does not repress as well as wild-type, so leaky expression is about two-fold higher.

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334 pDSW1884. Amplify mEos3.2 from pJL015 with primers P2163 and P2164. The 757 bp 335 fragment was digested with AflII and MfeI, then ligated into AflII-EcoRI digested 336 pDSW1866.

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338 pDSW1890. Amplify *ftsN* from pJL015 with P2178 and P2179. The 1029 bp product was 339 digested with EcoRI and BamHI, and ligated into the same sites of pDSW1884.

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341 pDSW1920. Amplify *Halo* from pJL033 with primers P2228 and P2225. The 927 bp 342 product was digested with AflII and EcoRI, then ligated into the same sites of pDS1890.

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- pDSW1926. Amplify mNeonGreen from pJL019 with primers P2222 and P2223. The 744 bp product was digested with AflII and EcoRI, then ligated into the same sites of pDS1890.
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- pDSW2031. Amplify the *ftsN*(E60-mNG) sandwich fusion from pJL108 with P2392 and P2393. The 1730 bp product was digested with AflII and BamHI, then ligated into the same sites of pDSW1876.
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- pDSW2035. Amplify the *ftsN*(Q151-Halo) sandwich fusion from pJL112 with P2392 and P2394. The 1916 bp product was digested with AflII and BamHI, then ligated into the same sites of pDSW1876.
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- pDSW2083. Constructed from a four-fragment Gibson Assembly. The vector backbone was obtained by digestion of pDSW2035 with AflII and KpnI. The inserts were a 231 bp fragment amplified from pDSW2031 with primers P2439 and P2445, an 891 bp fragment amplified from pDSW2035 with primers P2446 and P2447, and an 804 bp fragment amplified from pDSW2031 with primers P2448 and P2449.
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- pDSW2091. Amplify the *ftsN* (E60-Halo) sandwich fusion from pDSW2083 using primers P2422 and P2460. P2422 introduces a D5N amino acid substitution. The 2009 bp product was digested with AflII and KpnI, then ligated into the same sites of pDSW2035.
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- 366 pDSW2099. Obtain a 946 bp *dsbA*^{ss}-Halo fragment from pJL074 by digestion with AflII and AccI. This fragment was ligated into the same sites of pDSW2083.
- pDSW2105. Amplify a fragment of the *ftsN*(E60-Halo) sandwich fusion from pDSW2083 with primers P2182 and P2525. The 1357 bp PCR product encodes *ftsN* residues 1-73, a Halo tag inserted between *ftsN* residues 60-61, followed by *ftsN* residues 61-73. This DNA fragment was digested with AflII and KpnI, then ligated into the same sites of pDSW2035.
- 374 pDSW2109. Amplify part of the *ftsN*^{D5N} (E60-Halo) sandwich fusion from pDSW2091 using primers P2182 and P2525. The 1357 bp product was digested with AflII and KpnI, then ligated into the same sites of pDSW2035.
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- pJL033. Amplify *Halo* gene from the chromosome of strain JM136 which contains the 379 sandwich *Halo-ftsI* gene^{[13](#page-43-12)} with primers 19 and 20. Amplify *ftsN* gene with the vector backbone from pJL015 with primers 13 and 72. The two DNA fragments were then joined 81 by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL033 (P_{T5-lac}::*Halo-ftsN*, Amp^r).
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- 383 pJL069. Amplify *Halo* gene with the vector backbone from pDSW1920 (P_{204_7A}:: *Halo-ftsN* 384 *lac*^{Q*} *oriR*_γ *attP*_{Φ80} Spc^r) with primers 89 and 90. Amplify *ftsN²⁴³⁻³¹⁹* gene from pJL028 with primers 66 and 92. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL069 (P_{204 7A}:: *Halo-ftsN²⁴³⁻³¹⁹ lac*^{Q*} *oriR_γ attP*_{Φ80} Spc^{*r*}).
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- 388 pJL074. The pJL074 (P_{204_7A}∷ *dsbA*^{ss}-*Halo-ftsN⁴⁴³⁻³¹⁹ lacſ*^Q* *oriR_γ attP*_{Φ80} Spc') plasmid was constructed from the pJL069 plasmid using the QuikChange protocol (Agilent) with the 390 primers 111 and 112 to insert the *dsbA*^{ss} gene in front of *Halo* gene.
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pJL098. Amplify the vector backbone from pJL015 (PT5-lac::*mEos3.2-ftsN*) [4](#page-43-3) with primers 13 and 72. Amplify *ftsN* gene from pJL015 with primers 127 and 128. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL098 (PT5- 395 _{lac}::*ftsN*, Amp^r).

 pJL019. Amplify *ftsN* gene with the vector backbone from pJL015 with primers 13 and 72. 398 Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pXY677 (P_{T[5](#page-43-4)-lac}::*mNeonGreen-zapA*)⁵ with primers 11 and 12. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL019 (PT5-lac::*mNG-ftsN*).

402 pJL107. Amplify *ftsN¹²⁻¹³* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 148 and149. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 150 and 151. The two DNA 404 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL107 (P_{T5} 405 _{lac}::*ftsN(P12-A13)-mNG^{SW}*).

407 pJL103. Amplify *ftsN²⁸⁻²⁹* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 141 and142. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 143 and 144. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL103 (PT5- 410 _{lac}::*ftsN(N28-L29)-mNG^{SW}*).

412 pJL108. Amplify *ftsN⁶⁰⁻⁶¹* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 152 and153. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 154 and 155. The two DNA 414 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL108 (P_{T5} lac::*ftsN(E60-E61)-mNGSW*).

 417 pJL109. Amplify *ftsN⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 156

 and157. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 158 and 159. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL109 (PT5 lac::*ftsN(K69-V70)-mNGSW*).

422 pJL110. Amplify *ftsN¹¹³⁻¹¹⁴* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 160 and161. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 162 and 163. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL110 (PT5 lac::*ftsN(Q113-L114)-mNGSW*).

427 pJL111. Amplify *ftsN¹⁵¹⁻¹⁵²* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 164 and165. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 166 and 167. The two DNA 429 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL111 (P_{T5-} 430 _{lac}::*ftsN(Q124-M125)-mNG^{SW}*).

 432 pJL100. Amplify *ftsN¹²⁴⁻¹²⁵* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 129 and130. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 131 and 132. The two DNA 434 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL100 (P_{T5} . 435 _{lac}::*ftsN(Q151-T152)-mNG^{SW}*).

437 pJL101. Amplify *ftsN¹⁸²⁻¹⁸³* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 133 and134. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 135 and 136. The two DNA 439 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL101 (P_{T5-} lac::*ftsN(Q182-T183)-mNGSW* 440).

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442 pJL102. Amplify *ftsN²¹²⁻²¹³* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 137 443 and138. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 139 and 140. The two DNA 444 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL102 (P_{T5-} lac::*ftsN(Q212-T213)-mNGSW* 445).

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 pJL028. Amplify *ftsN* gene with the vector backbone from pJL015 with primers 13 and 72. Amplify *mNeonGreen* gene from pJL019 with primers 39 and 40. The two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL028 (PT5-lac::*ftsN-*450 *mNG*).

452 pJL112. Amplify *ftsN¹⁵¹⁻¹⁵²* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 170 453 and171. Amplify *Halo* gene from pJL033 with primers 172 and 173. The two DNA 454 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL113 (PT5- 455 _{lac}::*ftsN(Q151-T152)-Halo^{SW}*, Amp^r).

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457 pJL113. Amplify *ftsN⁶⁰⁻⁶¹* gene with the vector backbone from pJL098 with primers 152 458 and153. Amplify *Halo* gene from pJL033 with primers 177 and 178. The two DNA 459 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL113 (P_{T5} 160 $_{\text{lac}}::\text{ftsN}(E60-E61)$ -*Halo*^{SW}, Amp^r).

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462 pJL119. Amplify the vector backbone from pXY027 (P_{T5-lac}::*ftsZ-GFP*, Cam^r)^{[20](#page-44-1)} with primers 463 72 and 126. Amplify *ftsN* gene from pJL015 with primers 127 and 128. The two DNA 464 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL119 (P_{T5-} 465 **lac**::*ftsN*, Cam^r).

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467 pJL123. Amplify *ftsN²⁴³⁻³¹⁹* gene with the vector backbone from pJL119 with primers 72 468 and 106. Amplify *dsbA^{ss}* gene from pJL074 with primers 181 and 183. The two DNA 469 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL123 (P_{T5-} 470 _{lac}∷*dsbA*^{ss}-fts/V²⁴³⁻³¹⁹, Cam^r).

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472 pJL132. Amplify *ftsN⁶⁰⁻⁶¹* gene with the vector backbone from pJL119 with primers 152 473 and153. Amplify *Halo* gene from pJL113 with primers 177 and 178. The two DNA 474 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL132 (P_{T5-} 475 _{lac}::*ftsN(E60-E61)-Halo^{SW}*, Cam^r).

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477 pJL133. The pJL133 (P_{T5-lac}::*ftsN(E60-E61, WYAA)-Halo^{SW}*, Cam^r) plasmid was 478 constructed from the pJL132 plasmid using the QuikChange protocol (Agilent) with the 479 primers 60 and 61 to mutate the nucleotide sequence encoding for W83A, Y85A. 480

481 pJL135. Amplify *dsbA*⁵⁵ gene with the vector backbone from pJL123 with primers 116 and 482 126. Amplify *ftsN*⁶¹⁻¹⁰⁵ gene from pJL119 with primers 184 and 187. The two DNA 483 fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid pJL135 (PT5 lac::*dsbA*ss *-ftsN*61-105 , Cam^r 484).

- 486 pJL136. Amplify *dsbA*^{ss} gene and *ftsN*⁶¹⁻¹⁰⁵ gene with the vector backbone from pJL123
- 487 with primers 116 and 152. Amplify *Halo* gene from pJL113 with primers 76 and 178. The
- 488 two DNA fragments were then joined by the In-Fusion Cloning Kit to generate plasmid
- 489 pJL136 (P_{T5-lac}∷*dsbA^{ss}-Halo-ftsN⁶¹⁻¹⁰⁵,* Cam').

490 **Supplementary Table 3. Oligonucleotides used in this study.**

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494 **Supplementary Table 4. Summary of different FtsN fusions.**

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496 All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

497 ^a This is MG1655 wild-type strain. Localization data was from the immunostaining 498 fluorescence images.

499 b N.A. not applicable.

- 500 ^cN.D. not measured.
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Supplementary Table 5. FtsN-ring and FtsZ-ring dimension measurements.

All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

518 \degree FtsZ-mEos3.2 data was from a previous work^{[4](#page-43-3)}.

519 \cdot b The FWHM was deconvolved as previously described^{[21](#page-44-2)}, which allows comparison of dimensions obtained with different spatial resolutions.

521 \degree *n* is the number of cells used in each measurement.

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Supplementary Table 6. Comparison of the moving speed across different divisome proteins.

All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

547 aN.A. not applicable

FtsN data is from this study, where TIRF data is the combination of TIRF and TIRF-SIM imaging of the mNG-FtsN fusion (Strain 4564 in Supplementary Table 1), SMT data is 550 from SMT imaging of the FtsN-Halo^{SW} fusion (Strain 5234 in Supplementary Table 1). 51 FtsW data is from SMT imaging of a FtsW-RFP fusion in a previous study⁵. FtsI data is 552 from SMT imaging of an RFP-FtsI fusion from a previous stud[y](#page-43-4)⁵. FtsZ data is from TIRF 553 imaging of an FtsZ-GFP fusion in a previous stud[y](#page-43-5)⁶.

554 Speeds of FtsN (V_1) and FtsZ (V_2) from the TIRF data were calculated as the average of 555 the absolute speeds. Errors are the *s.e.m.* with $n > 200$. Percentage $(P_1 \ V_1)$, speed (V_1) of the slow-moving population and speed (*V*2) of the fast-moving population from the SMT data of FtsN, FtsW, and FtsI are obtained from one-population (FtsN) or two-population (FtsW, FtsI) free-float fitting of 200 CDF curves bootstrapped from three independent experiments. Errors are the standard deviations of the fitted parameters.

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575 **Supplementary Table 7. FtsN dynamics in cells with different FtsZ** 576 **treadmilling speeds.**

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578 All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

579 ^a FtsZ treadmilling speeds were calculated as the average of the absolute speeds from a 580 previous work^{[6](#page-43-5)}. Data are presented as mean ± *s.e.m.* Nz is the number of FtsZ kymograph 581 segments.

582 b Percentage of segment number (P moving) and average speed of FtsN molecules spent 583 in directional moving state. Data are presented as mean \pm error, where the error is the 584 standard deviation from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three independent 585 experiments. N_{all} is the number of total track segments.

586 ^c Average dwell time of FtsN molecules spent in directional moving state (*T*_moving) and 587 stationary state (*T* stationary). Data are presented as mean \pm *s.e.m.* N_m is the number of 588 segments corresponding to a directionally moving molecule. *N*^s is the number of segments 589 corresponding to a stationary molecule.

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Supplementary Table 8. Dynamics of FtsN's cytoplasmic domain mutants.

All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

^a Percentage of segment number (*P*_moving) and average speed of FtsN mutant 607 molecules spent in directional moving state. Data are presented as mean \pm error, where the error is the standard deviation from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three independent experiments. *N*all is the number of total track segments.

610 b Average dwell time of FtsN mutant molecules spent in directional moving state (*T*_moving) and stationary state (*T*_stationary). Data are presented as mean ± *s.e.m. N*^m is the number of segments corresponding to a directionally moving molecule. *N*^s is the number of segments corresponding to a stationary molecule.

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635 **Supplementary Table 9. FtsN^{Cyto-TM} dynamics in cells with different FtsZ** 636 **treadmilling speeds.**

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638 All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

 639 a FtsZ treadmilling speeds were calculated as the average of the absolute speeds from [6](#page-43-5)40 previous work⁶. Data are presented as mean \pm *s.e.m.* Nz is the number of FtsZ kymograph 641 segments.

 b^2 Percentage of segment number (*P*_moving) and average speed of FtsN^{Cyto-TM} molecules 643 spent in directional moving state. Data are presented as mean \pm error, where the error is 644 the standard deviation from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three independent 645 experiments. N_{all} is the number of total track segments.

646 C Average dwell time of FtsN^{Cyto-TM} molecules spent in directional moving state (*T*_moving) and stationary state (*T*_stationary). Data are presented as mean ± *s.e.m. N*^m is the number of segments corresponding to a directionally moving molecule. *N*^s is the number of segments corresponding to a stationary molecule.

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662 **Supplementary Table 10. FtsN dynamics under different sPG synthesis** 663 **conditions.**

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^a 665 Percentage of segment number (*P*_moving) and average speed of FtsNmolecules spent 666 in directional moving state. Data are presented as mean \pm error, where the error is the 667 standard deviation from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three independent 668 experiments. N_{all} is the number of total track segments.

^b 669 Average dwell time of FtsN molecules spent in directional moving state (*T*_moving) and 670 stationary state (T _stationary). Data are presented as mean \pm *s.e.m.* N_m is the number of 671 segments corresponding to a directionally moving molecule. *N*^s is the number of segments 672 corresponding to a stationary molecule.

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Supplementary Table 11. The *p***-values of the two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) test for FtsN and FtsW's directional movement.**

^{683 &}lt;sup>a</sup> The *p*-values indicate the distributions are not significantly different from each other (p > 0.05).

706 **Supplementary Table 12. Dynamics of FtsN mutants in the superfission**

707 **strain.**

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709 All the experiments were performed with cells grown in M9-glucose minimal medium.

710 a N.A. not applicable

711 b Percentage of segment number (P _moving) and average speed (V_1) of FtsN or FtsN 712 mutant molecules spent in directional moving state. Data are presented as mean \pm error, 713 where the error is the standard deviation from 200 bootstrap samples pooled from three

714 independent experiments. N_{all} is the number of total track segments.

715 Percentage (P_1, V_1) , speed (V_1) of the slow-moving population and speed (V_2) of the fast-716 moving population of $FtsN^E$ molecules obtained from two-population free-float fitting of 717 CDF curves bootstrapped 200 times from three independent experiments. Errors are the 718 standard deviations of the fitted parameters.

719 ^d Average dwell time of FtsN or FtsN mutant molecules spent in directional moving state 720 (*T*_moving) and stationary state (*T*_stationary). Data are presented as mean ± *s.e.m. N*^m 721 is the number of segments corresponding to a directionally moving molecule. N_s is the 722 number of segments corresponding to a stationary molecule.

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Uncropped scans of all blots and gels

Supplemental Figure 4C

Supplemental Figure 4 D

832 Supplemental Figure 5B

