

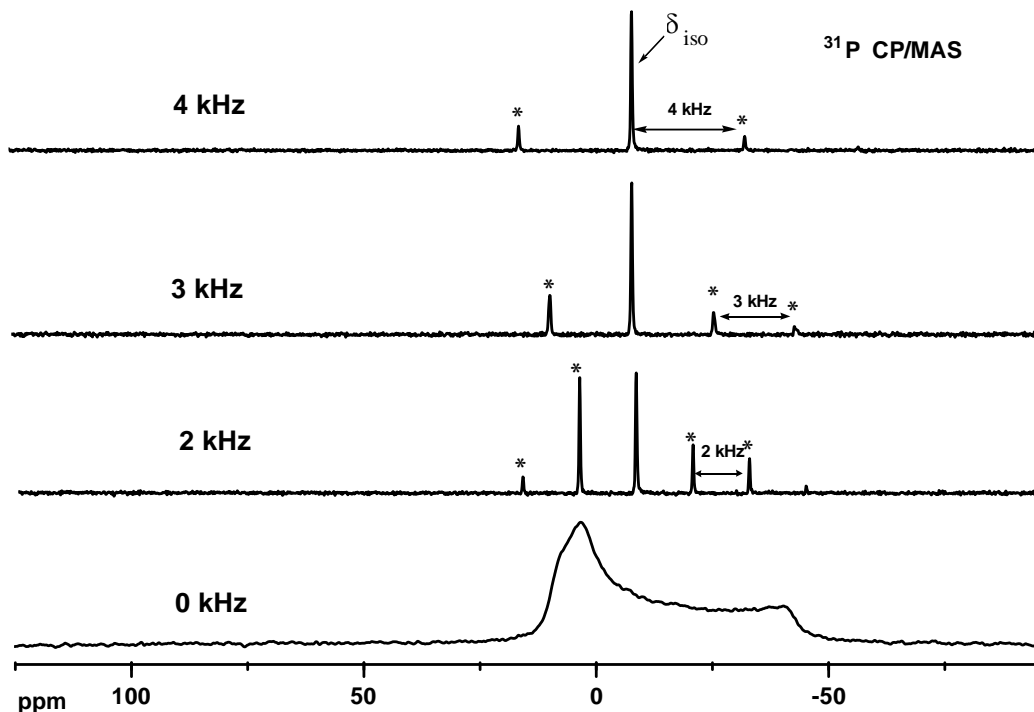
## Supplementary Information (SI)

### Adsorption of Solid Phosphines on Silica and Implications for Catalysts on Oxide Surfaces

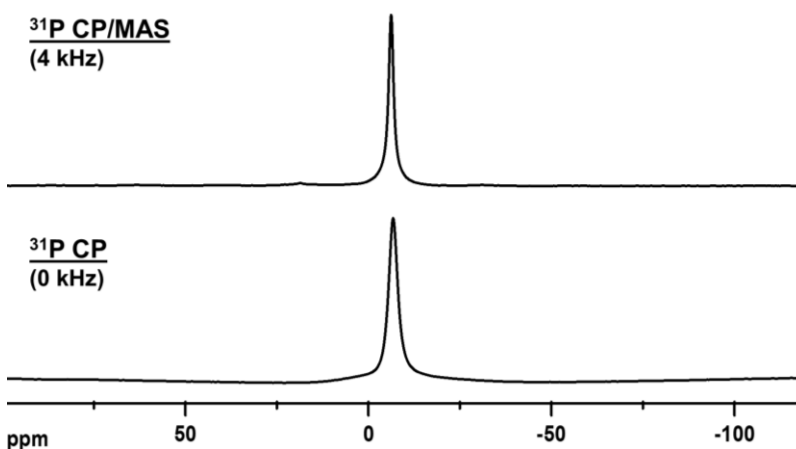
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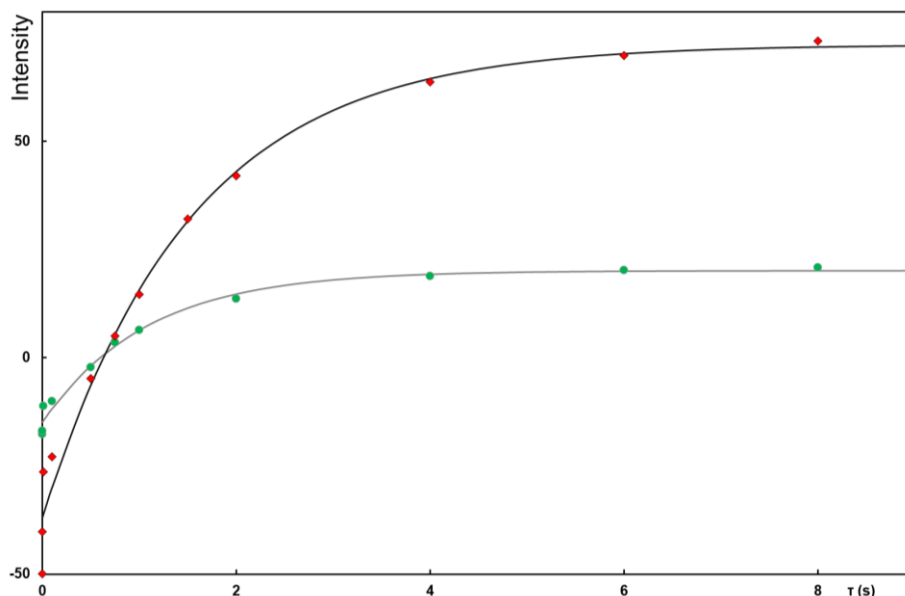
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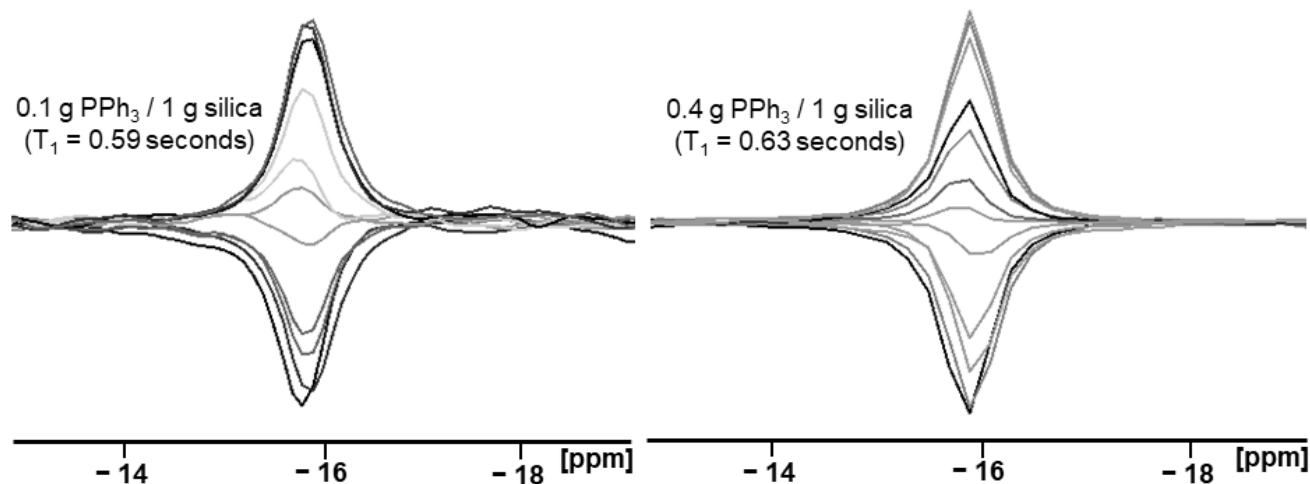
**Figure S1.** <sup>31</sup>P CP/MAS NMR spectra of polycrystalline PPh<sub>3</sub> at 4 kHz, 3 kHz and 2 kHz spinning speeds and the corresponding wideline spectrum without spinning (bottom). Asterisks denote the rotational sidebands.



**Figure S2.** <sup>31</sup>P CP/MAS NMR spectrum of PPh<sub>3</sub> adsorbed on silica (**1a**) in a monolayer (206 molecules per 100 nm<sup>2</sup> of surface area) at 4 kHz spinning speed (top) and <sup>31</sup>P CP wideline spectrum (bottom).



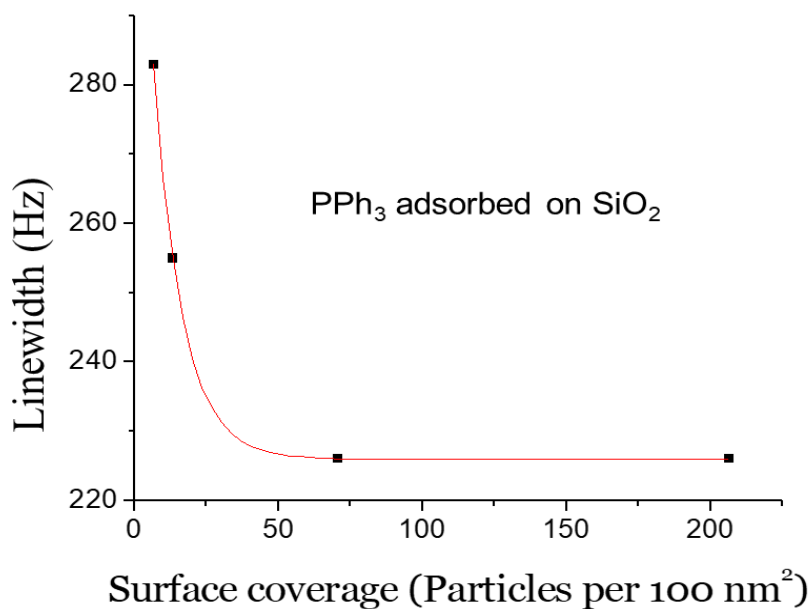
**Figure S3.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR signal intensities for  $\text{PPh}_3$  adsorbed on silica (green symbols 0.1 g, red symbols 0.4 g per g of silica) when using a standard Bruker inversion recovery pulse sequence (t1ir1d) at 293 K with MAS (10 kHz). The inversion recovery data was fitted using the stretched exponential function  $I(t)=A(1-\text{Be}^{(-\tau/T)})$  in the program LabPlot. The values of specific parameters for each fit can be found in Table S1 and the spectra are displayed in Figure S4.



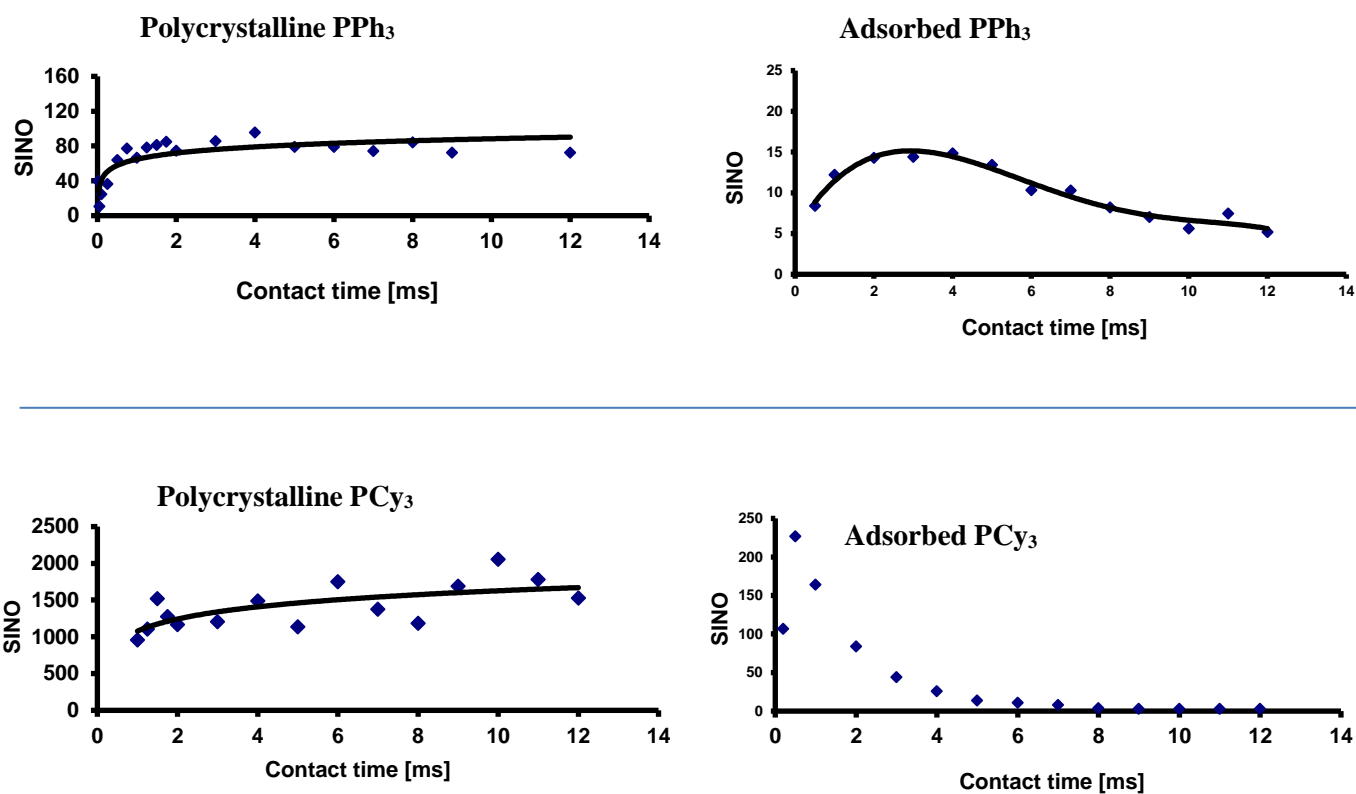
**Figure S4.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra acquired with the standard Bruker inversion recovery pulse sequence (t1ir1d) at 293 K with MAS (10 kHz) for two samples of  $\text{PPh}_3$  adsorbed on dried silica at different concentrations.

**Table S1.** Equation parameters with % uncertainty for the fit obtained from  $T_1$  time experiments (Figure S3 and Figure S4). The inversion recovery data was fitted using the stretched exponential function  $I(t) = A(1-\text{Be}^{(-\tau/T)})$  in the program LabPlot.  $I(t)$  represents arbitrary intensities measured with the TopSpin software and  $\tau$  is the delay time.

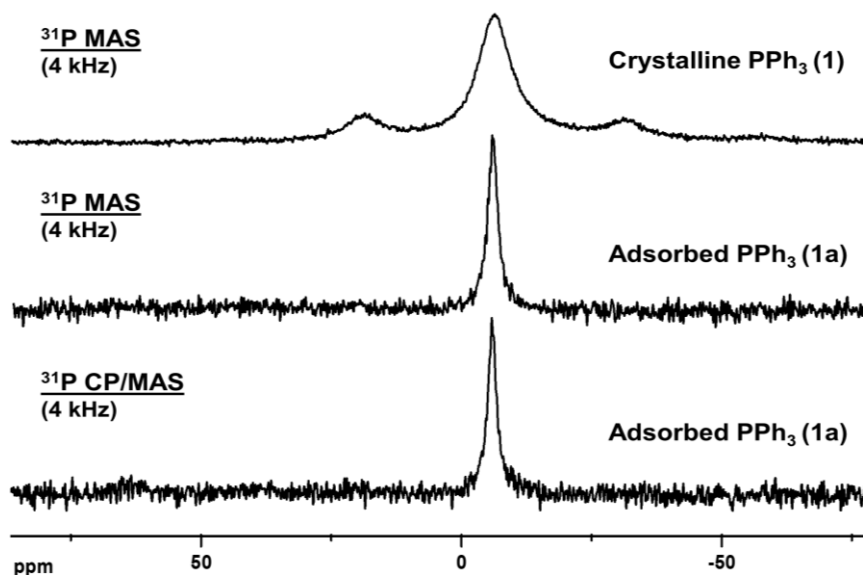
Parameter (% uncertainty)	0.1 $\text{PPh}_3$ per g of $\text{SiO}_2$	0.4 $\text{PPh}_3$ per g of $\text{SiO}_2$
A	20.1371 (5.8)	72.3582 (6.0)
B	1.73934 (3.9)	1.51027 (3.7)
T	1.07103 (11.5)	1.5208 (11.9)



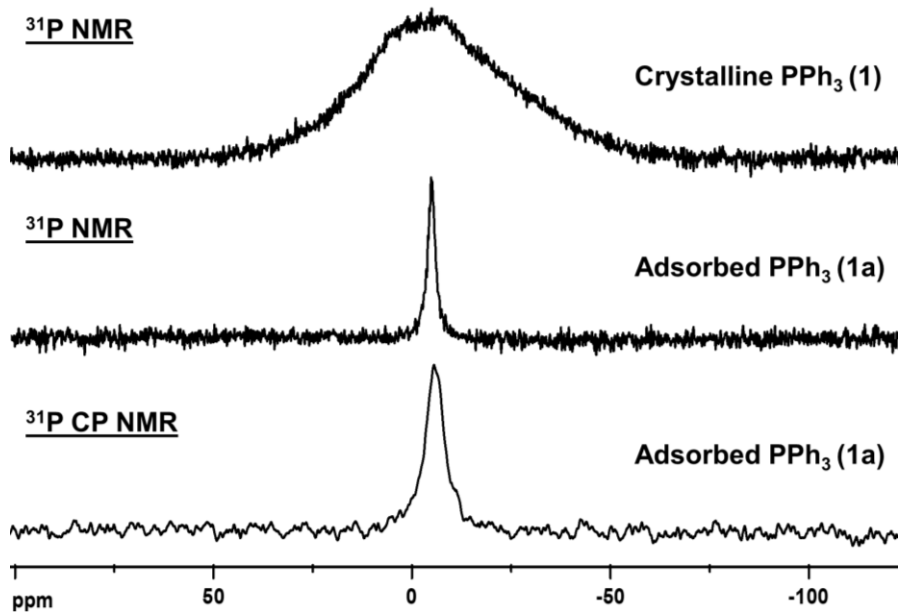
**Figure S5.** Correlation between <sup>31</sup>P signal linewidth and surface coverage of PPh<sub>3</sub> on silica.



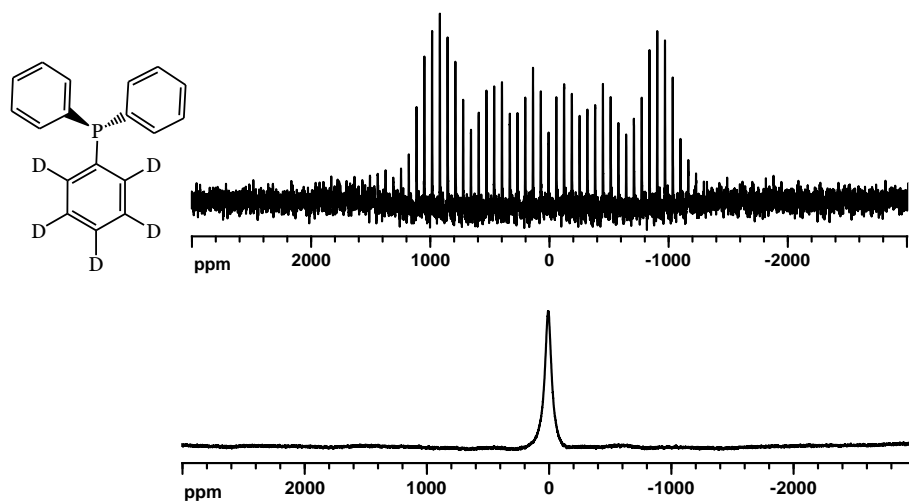
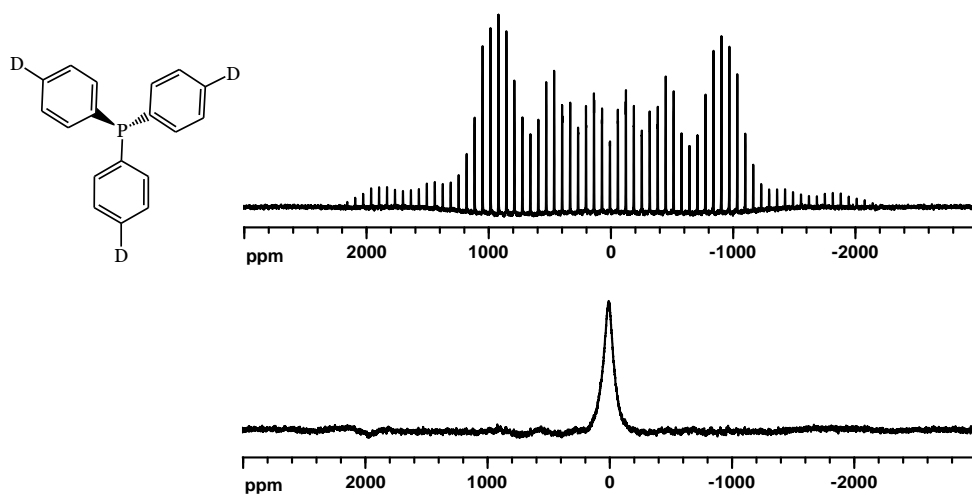
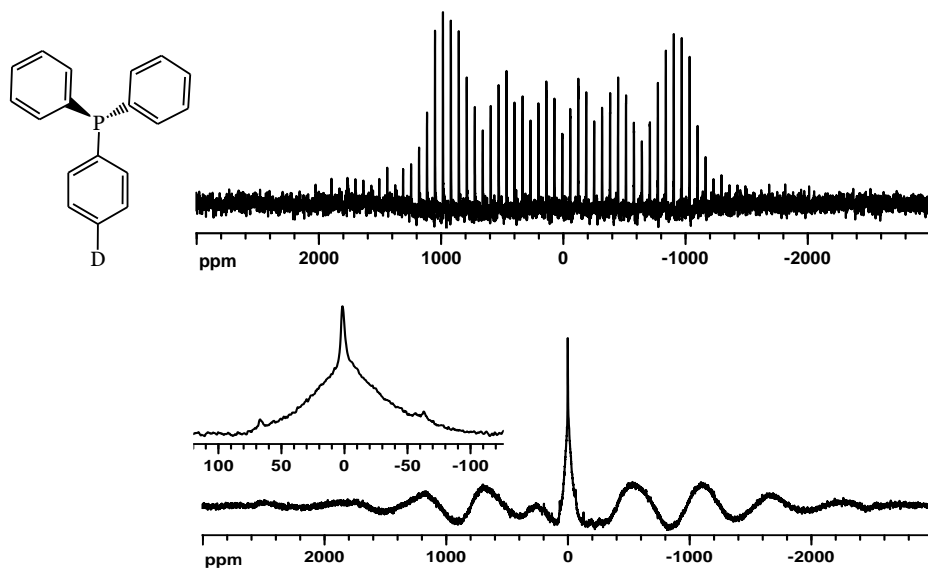
**Figure S6.** <sup>31</sup>P CP/MAS signal intensities (SINO) at different contact times for polycrystalline PPh<sub>3</sub> (top, left) and PCy<sub>3</sub> (bottom, left) and surface-adsorbed PPh<sub>3</sub> (top, right) and PCy<sub>3</sub> (bottom, right).



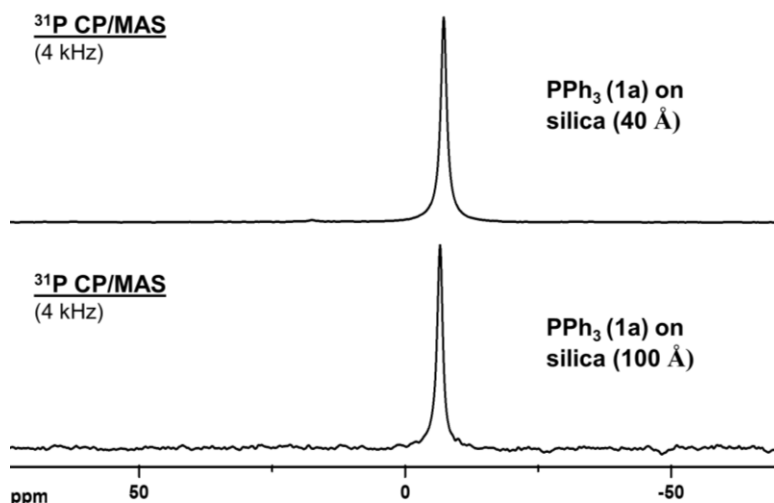
**Figure S7.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  MAS spectra of polycrystalline (**1**) and adsorbed  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**1a**), measured with a single pulse sequence without proton decoupling (top two spectra), and  $^{31}\text{P}$  CP/MAS spectrum of adsorbed  $\text{PPh}_3$  (bottom) at 4 kHz.



**Figure S8.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  Wideline (no sample spinning) NMR spectra of polycrystalline  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**1**, top) and surface-adsorbed  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**1a**, middle), recorded without  $^1\text{H}$  high-power decoupling, and  $^{31}\text{P}$  CP spectrum of surface-adsorbed  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**1a**, bottom, with high-power  $^1\text{H}$  decoupling).



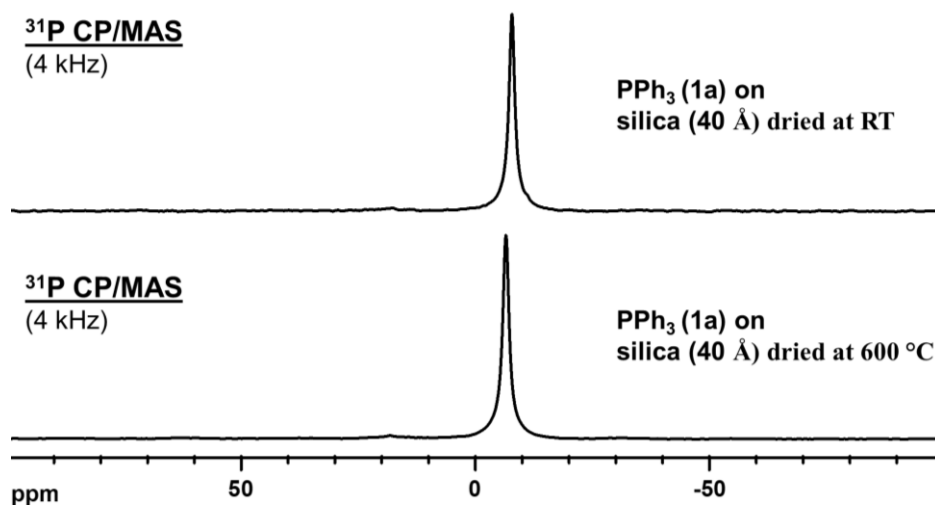
**Figure S9.** <sup>2</sup>H CP/MAS NMR spectra of the shown polycrystalline deuterated phosphines (top each) and <sup>2</sup>H{<sup>1</sup>H} MAS spectra of the silica-adsorbed deuterated phosphines (bottom each). The spinning speed was 4 kHz for all measurements. None of the <sup>2</sup>H CP/MAS spectra of the adsorbed deuterated phosphines showed any signals. No baseline correction was applied.



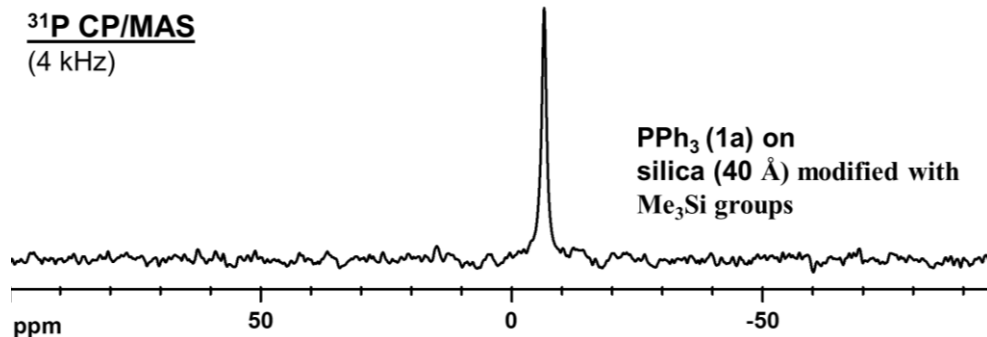
**Figure S10.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  CP/MAS spectra of surface-adsorbed  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**1a**) on silica with 40 Å (top) and silica with 100 Å (bottom) average pore diameter at 4 kHz. Surface coverages see Table S2.

**Table S2.** Adsorption of 601 mg of **1** on 1 g each of rigorously dried silicas with 40 Å and 100 Å average pore diameters.

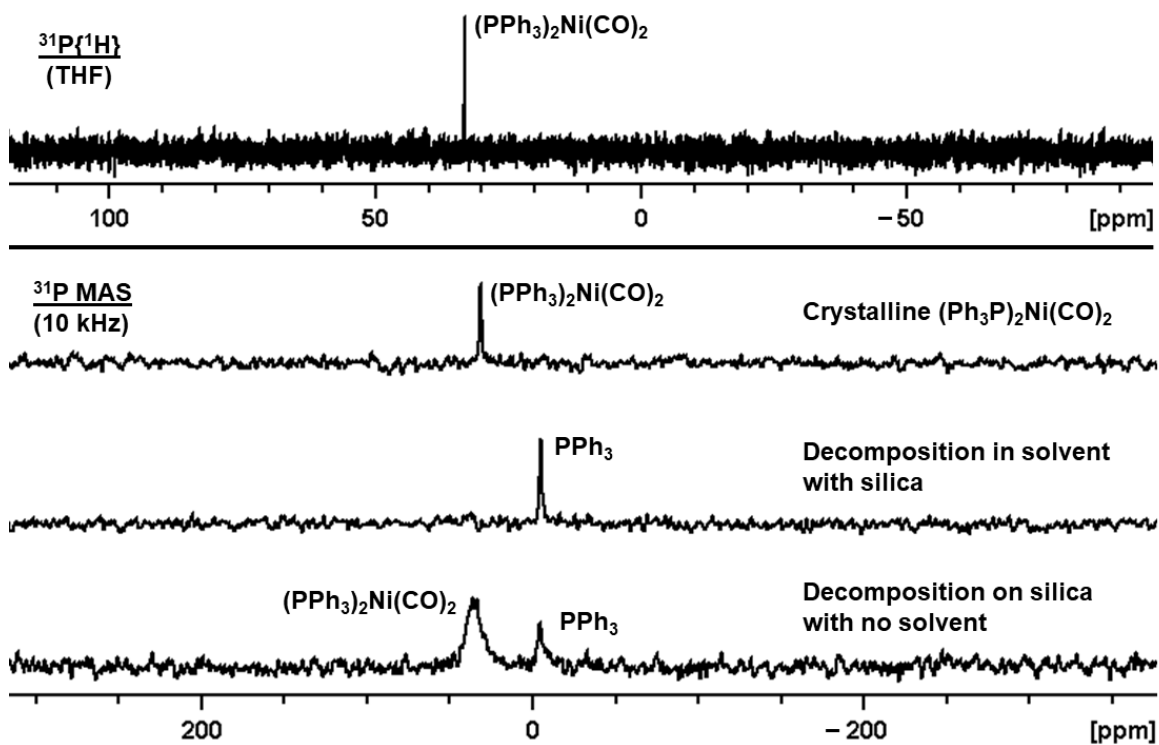
Average Pore Diameter of Silica	Surface coverage of <b>1a</b> (molecules per 100 nm <sup>2</sup> )	$\delta(^{31}\text{P})$ of the adsorbed $\text{PPh}_3$ [ppm]	Linewidth [Hz]
40 Å	202	-6	230
100 Å	169	-6	200



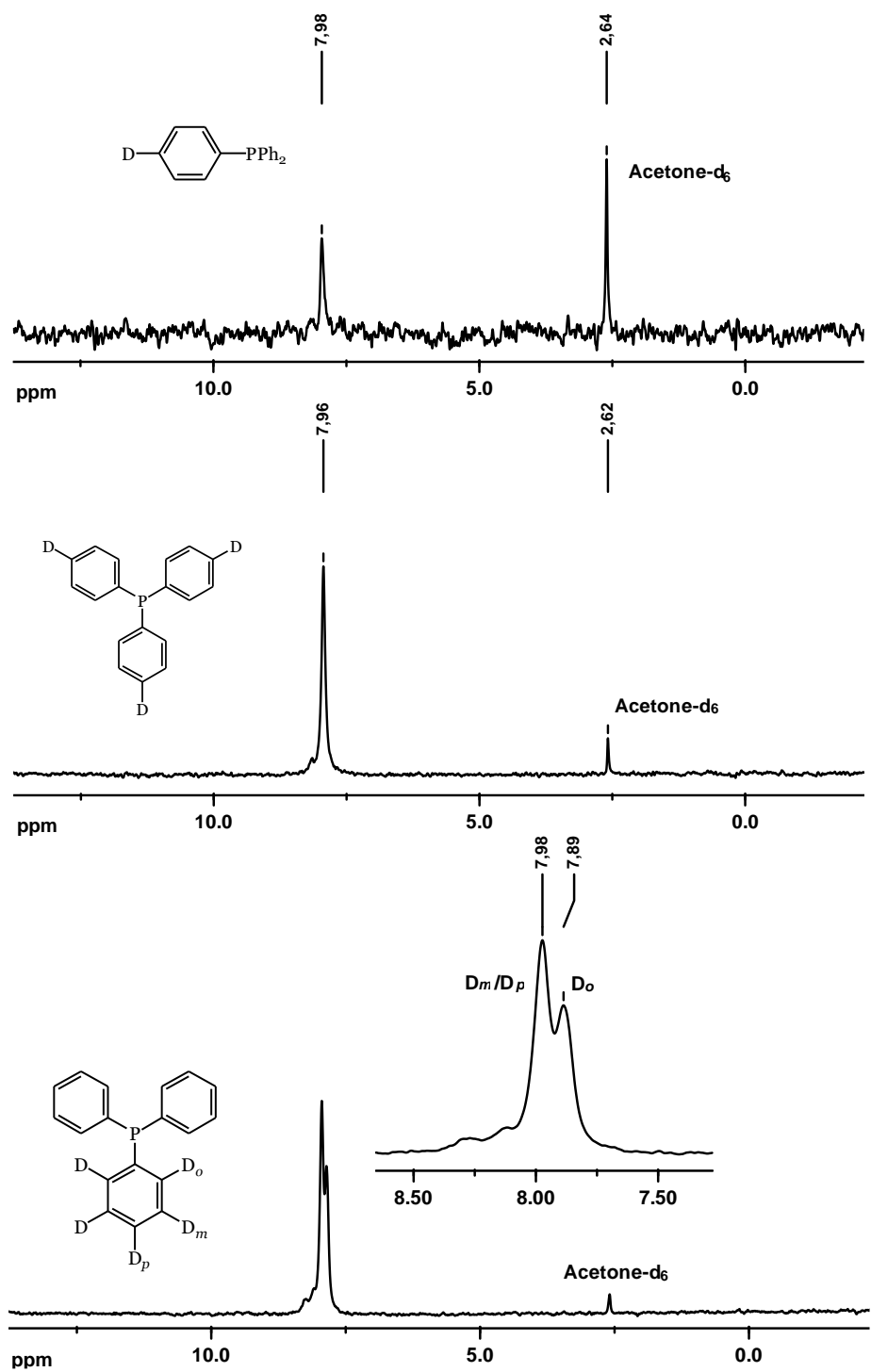
**Figure S11.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  CP/MAS spectra of surface-adsorbed  $\text{PPh}_3$  on silica that had been dried at RT (top) and at 600 °C (bottom). The rotational frequency was 4 kHz for both spectra and 592 mg have been adsorbed on 1 g of silica, corresponding to 199 molecules of **1a** on 100 nm<sup>2</sup> of surface area.



**Figure S12.** <sup>31</sup>P CP/MAS spectra of surface-adsorbed PPh<sub>3</sub> on Me<sub>3</sub>Si-modified silica at 4 kHz. The surface coverage is 61 mg of **1a** per 1 g of modified silica.



**Figure S13.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of a solution of (PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Ni(CO)<sub>2</sub> (**3**) in THF after heating to 50 °C for 3 h (top), proton high-power decoupled <sup>31</sup>P MAS spectra (10 kHz) of polycrystalline (PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Ni(CO)<sub>2</sub> (**3**, second from top), **3** heated in the presence of silica in THF to 50 °C for 3h (second from bottom), and **3** applied to silica and heated without solvent for 3 h (bottom).



**Figure S14.**  $^2\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $1-d_1$  (top),  $1-d_3$  (middle), and  $1-d_5$  (bottom), with acetone- $d_6$  as chemical shift reference.