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## Supporting Information - Cadmium phenylphosphonates: preparation, characterisation and *in situ* investigation

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Atoms	Contacts [Å]	Atoms	Angles $[^{\circ}]$
Cd1-O3	$2x \ 2.2262(2)$	O3-Cd1-O1	107.414(2)
-01	$2x \ 2.5319(3)$		72.586(2)
-O2	$2x \ 2.5762(3)$	O3-Cd1-O2	102.551(3)
			77.449(2)
		O1-Cd1-O2	97.625(2)
			82.375(2)
P1-O2	1.4196(1)	O2-P1-O3	107.355(4)
-O3	1.5388(1)	O2-P1-O1	105.184(3)
-01	1.5796(2)	O3-P1-O1	112.061(3)

Table S1: Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles  $[\circ]$  for (2).

Atoms	Contacts [Å]	Atoms	Angles $[^{\circ}]$
Cd1-O4	2.2439(7)	O4-Cd1-O2	88.883(16)
-O2	2.3328(5)	O4-Cd1-O7	97.065(15)
-07	2.3706(5)	O4-Cd1-O1	108.637(26)
-O2	2.4066(6)	O4-Cd1-O6	90.491(13)
-01	2.4510(7)	O7-Cd1-O1	101.328(15)
-O6	2.5202(5)	O7-Cd1-O2	90.393(14)
		O7-Cd1-O6	94.845(13)
		O2-Cd1-O1	83.732(14)
		O2-Cd1-O6	77.548(12)
		O2-Cd1-O2	81.845(13)
		O2-Cd1-O6	72.681(16)
		O2-Cd1-O1	85.573(15)
P1-O3	1.5271(6)	O3-P1-O2	111.586(21)
-01	1.5333(4)	O3-P1-O1	108.832(21)
-O2	1.5337(4)	O2-P1-O1	107.854(19)
P2-O4	1.5220(4)	O4-P2-O5	111.726(18)
-O5	1.5609(4)	O4-P2-O6	113.024(19)
-06	1.5708(5)	O5-P2-O6	103.310(24)
P3-O9	1.5299(7)	O9-P3-O8	95.607(20)
-08	1.5422(4)	O9-P3-O7	113.216(40)
-07	1.5525(6)	O8-P3-O7	118.683(21)

Table S2: Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles  $[\circ]$  for (3)



Figure S1: Comparison of the measured PXRD patterns of (1) (blue) and (2) (green) with the measured PXRD patterns of the starting materials cadmium acetate dihydrate (black) and phenylphosphonic acid (red).



Figure S2: Comparison of the measured PXRD patterns of (3) after the mechanochemical synthesis, before the cleaning step (blue) and (3) after stirring in diethyl ether (green) with the measured PXRD patterns of the starting materials cadmium acetate dihydrate (black) and phenylphosphonic acid (red).



Figure S3: Comparison of the measured PXRD pattern of the product mixture of the mechanochemical synthesis of cadmium acetate with phenylphosphonic acid in a 1:3 ratio (red) with the measured PXRD patterns of (2) (blue) and (3) (black).



Figure S4: 2D plot of synchrotron XRD data for the synthesis of (1).



Figure S5: 2D plot of synchrotron XRD data for the synthesis of (1).



Figure S6: 2D plot of synchrotron XRD data for the synthesis of (1).



Figure S7: XRD patterns of the products of the syntheses milling compound (1) and (3) together for 15 min (green) or 60 min (orange) at 50 Hz. Reactions were carried out by milling (1) and (3) in a molar ratio of 1:1 and a total load of 1 g together with acetic acid (200 L) and water (50 L) as liquid assistants.



Figure S8: XRD patterns after slurry experiments to obtain the relative stability of the compounds (1)-(3). Each compound (250 mg) was stirred for 24 h in water (25 ml)) under ambient conditions. The solid phase was gained by filtration and analyzed by powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD). Compound 1 was obtained as single product in all three cases.