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.

## Figure captions for supplementary information

Fig. SI 1	CH <sub>4</sub> (a) and CO yield (b) of TiO <sub>2</sub> and 10wt%Ni-Ce <sub>x</sub> Ti <sub>1-x</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (x = 0, 0.003, 0.05, 0.10 and 0.15) catalysts
Fig. SI 2	$CO_2$ conversion (a), $CH_4$ yield (b) and $CO$ yield (c) of NiO, $CeO_2$ , $TiO_2$ and $10wt\%Ni-Ce_{0.003}Ti_{0.997}O_2$ .
Fig. SI 3	Relationship between energy edge shift of metal compounds from XANES spectra and the oxidation states of metals; Ni oxidation state for fresh, pretreated and used $10wt\%$ Ni-TiO <sub>2</sub> (a) and $10wt\%$ Ni-Ce <sub>0.05</sub> Ti <sub>0.95</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (b) and the oxidation state of Ce for fresh, pretreated and used $10wt\%$ Ni-Ce <sub>0.05</sub> Ti <sub>0.95</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (c).
Fig. SI 4	Relationship between edge energy shift of Ni compounds and the oxidation states of Ni for fresh and pretreated $10wt\%$ Ni-Ce <sub>0.003</sub> Ti <sub>0.997</sub> O <sub>2</sub> and $10wt\%$ Ni-Ce <sub>0.003</sub> Ti <sub>0.997</sub> O <sub>2</sub> at reaction temperature of 350 and 550 °C.



Fig. SI 1



Fig. SI 2



Fig. SI 3



Fig. SI 4