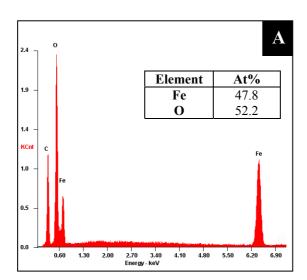
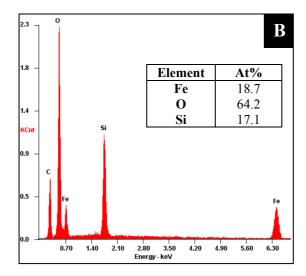
Electronic Supplementary Information

Superparamagnetic γ -Fe₂O₃@SiO₂ nanoparticles: a novel support for the immobilization of [VO(acac)₂]

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Figure S1. EDS spectra of (A) γ-Fe₂O₃, (B) γ-Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-1 and (C) γ-Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-2 nanomaterials (inset: atomic percentages of Fe, O and Si), obtained during SEM experiments.





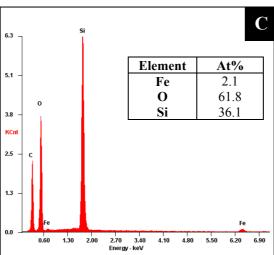


Figure S2. FTIR spectra of (a) γ -Fe₂O₃, (b) γ -Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-1 and (c) γ -Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-2 nanomaterials.

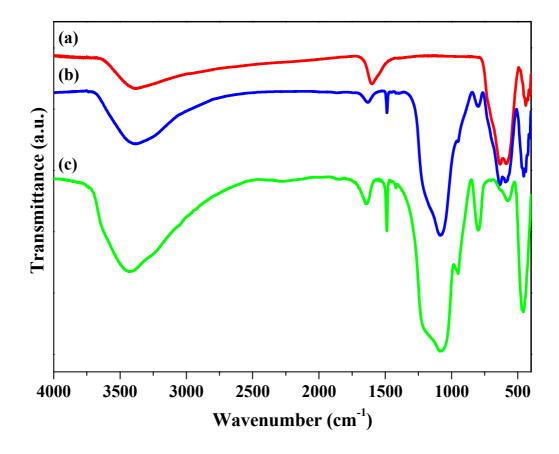
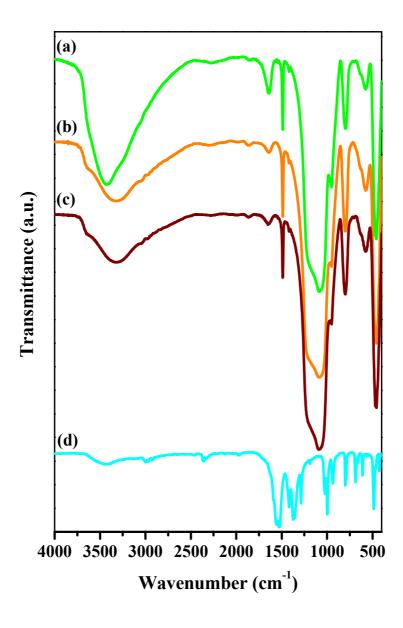


Figure S3. FTIR spectra of (a) γ -Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-2, (b) γ -Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-NH₂, (c) γ -Fe₂O₃@SiO₂-NH₂-V and (d) [VO(acac)₂].



Equation S1: Estimation of γ-Fe₂O₃ nanoparticles size by XRD

The average particles size of the uncoated γ -Fe₂O₃, d_{XRD}, was estimated from the FWHM of the (311) reflection, using the Debye-Scherrer equation:¹

$$d_{XRD} = \frac{K\lambda}{\beta \cos \theta}$$

where K is the Debye-Scherrer constant (K = 0.9 for spherical shape), λ is the wavelength of the Cu K α radiation, β is the FWHM and θ is the Bragg angle.

1 R. E. Dinnebier, S. J. L. Billinge (Eds.), *Powder Diffraction: Theory and Practice*, RSC Publishing, Cambridge, UK, 2008.