

## Supporting Information

# Monolayer Point and Vapor Phase Infiltration

R. Lundy<sup>^</sup>, P. Yadav<sup>^</sup>, N. Prochukhan<sup>^</sup>, E. Giraud<sup>^</sup>, T. O'Mahony<sup>^</sup>, A. Selkirk<sup>^</sup>, E. Mullen<sup>^</sup>, J. Conway<sup>\*</sup>, M.M. Turner<sup>\*</sup>, S. Daniels<sup>\*</sup>, P.G. Mani-Gonzalez<sup>\$</sup>, M. Snelgrove<sup>~</sup>, J. Bogan<sup>~</sup>, C. McFeely<sup>~</sup>, R. O'Connor<sup>~</sup>, **E. McGlynn<sup>~\*</sup>**, G. Hughes<sup>~\*</sup>, C. Cummins<sup>^</sup>, M.A. Morris<sup>^</sup>

<sup>~</sup>School of Physical Sciences, Dublin City University, Glasnevin, Dublin 9, Ireland

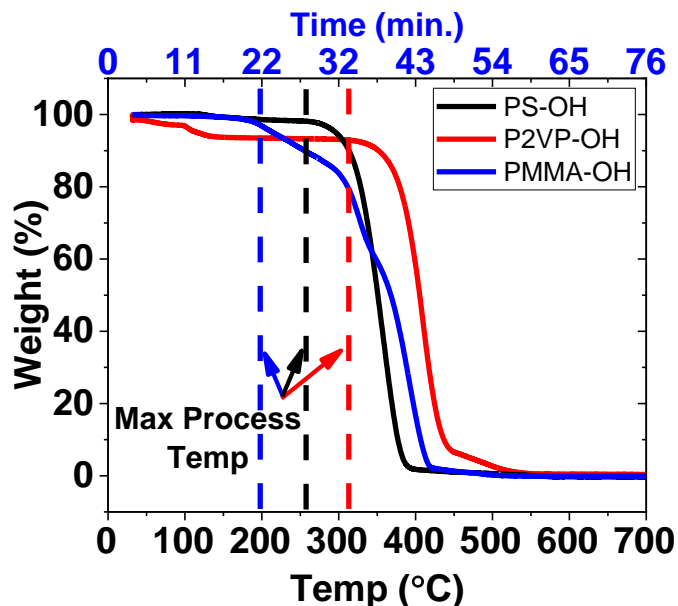
<sup>\*</sup>National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology

<sup>^</sup>AMBER Research Centre and School of Chemistry, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

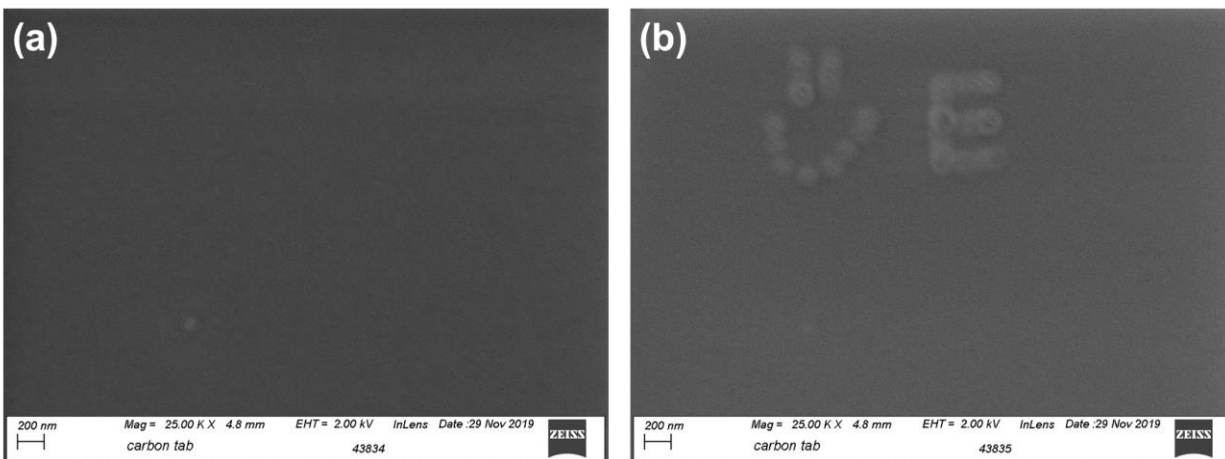
<sup>\$</sup>Institute of Engineering and Technology, Department of Physics and Mathematics, Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez, Cd. Juárez 32310, Mexico

**\* Corresponding author: \* E-mail: [ross.lundy2@gmail.com](mailto:ross.lundy2@gmail.com) (R.L.)**  
**[morrism2@tcd.ie](mailto:morrism2@tcd.ie) (M.A.M.)**

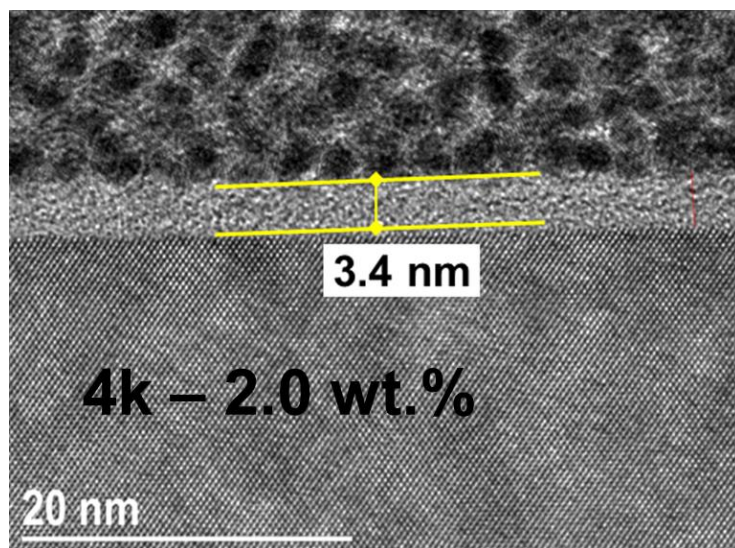
## Section S1 – P2VP Brush Monolayer Formation



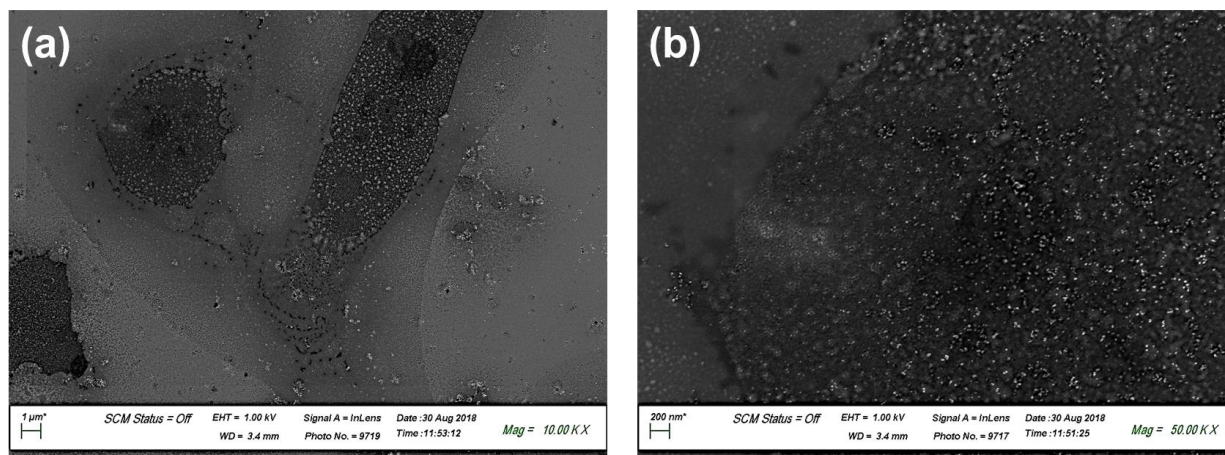
**Figure S1** Thermogravimetric data from the  $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$  functionalized polymers in a temperature range from 25 °C - 700 °C (samples treated for 90 min). The polymers undergo thermal degradation (PMMA-OH  $\approx 195$  °C, PS-OH  $\approx 260$  °C and P2VP-OH  $\approx 320$  °C) indicating the maximum upper threshold for the grafting process. Note that water loss occurs up to  $\approx 120$ -130 °C.



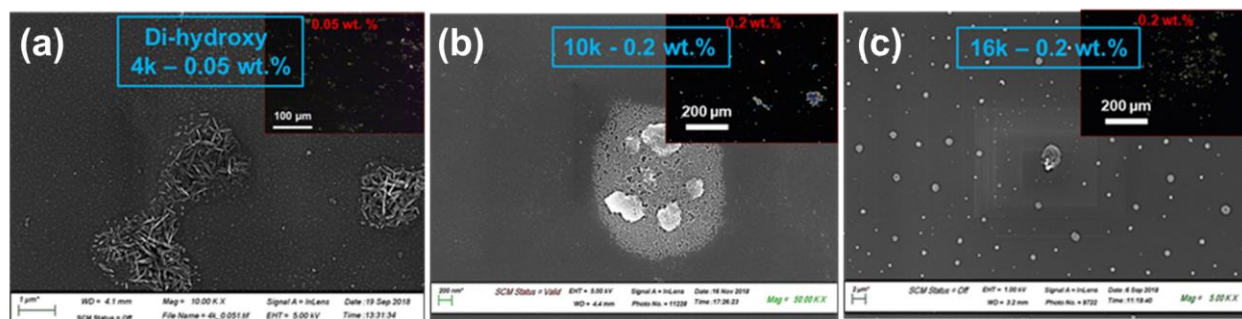
**Figure S2** SEM images (a) and (b) of the  $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$  P2VP-OH (0.2 wt. %) monolayer. Focusing the electron beam at specific points induces swelling in the polymer film (b).



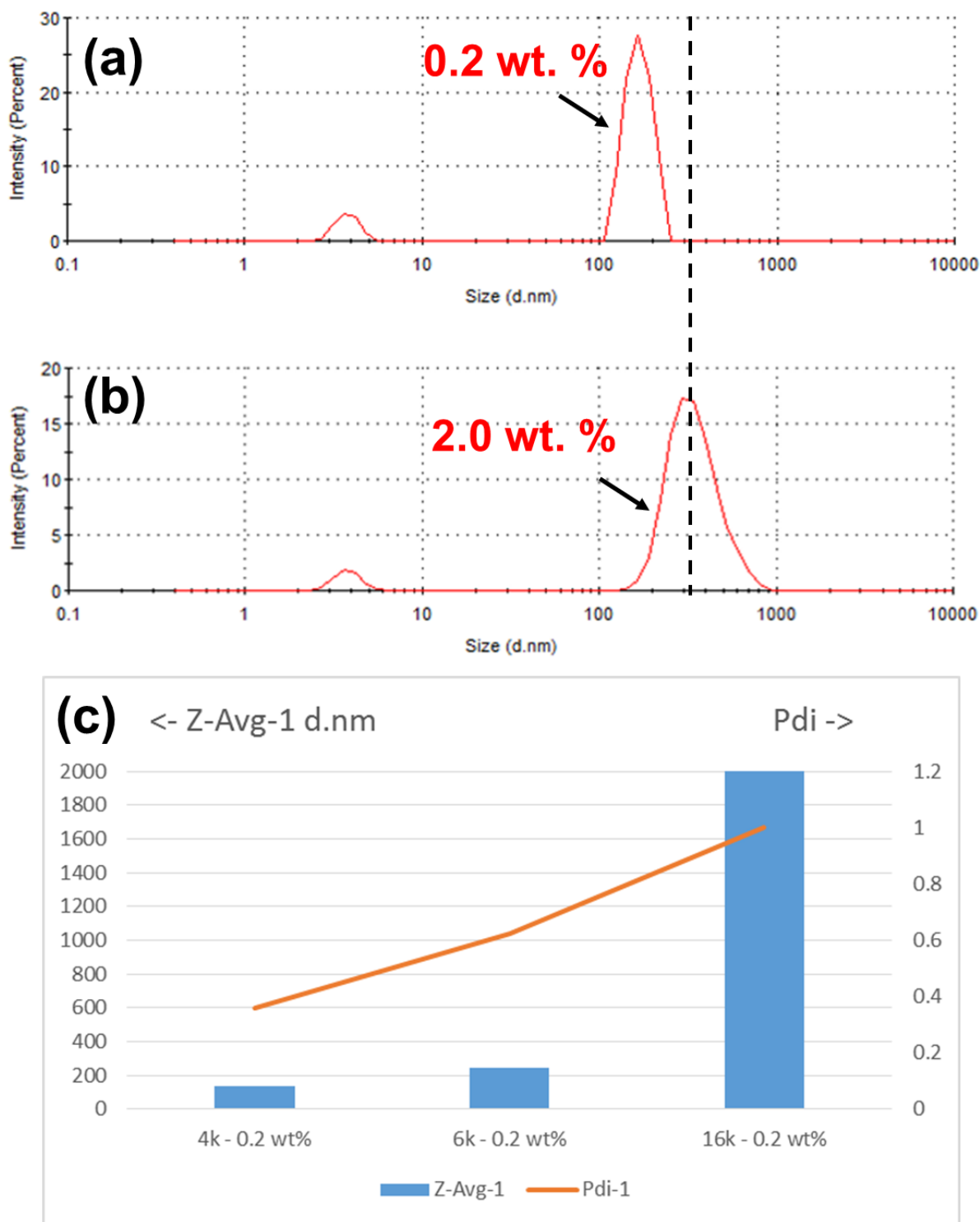
**Figure S3** Bright-field TEM image of the  $4 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$  P2VP-OH grafted from a 2.0 wt. % casting solution



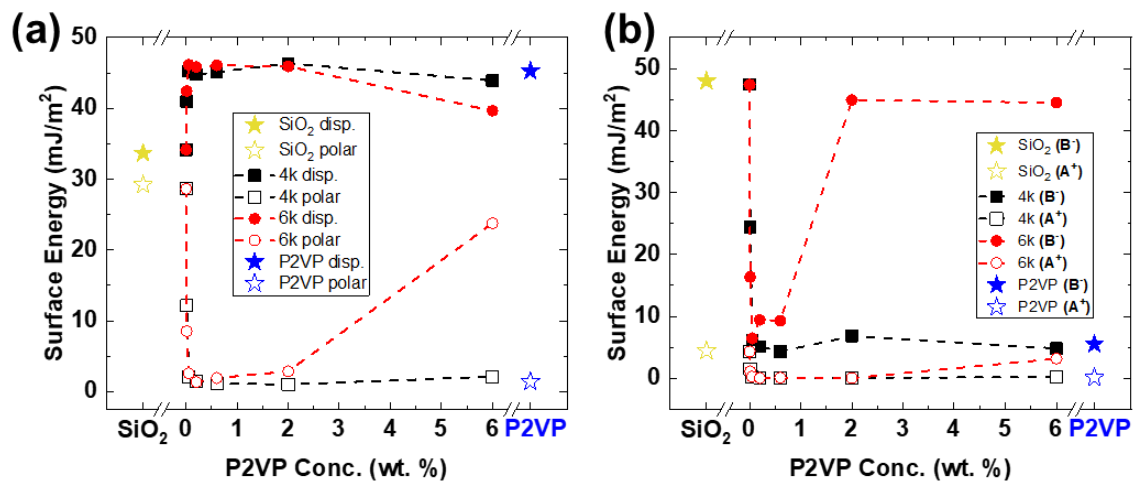
**Figure S4** SEM images (a) and (b) of a  $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$  P2VP-OH cast and grafted from a 2.0 wt. % solution (i.e. above CAC). Complete uniform monolayers form below the critical agglomeration concentration ( $< 1 \text{ wt. %}$  for  $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$  P2VP-OH).



**Figure S5** SEM images with darkfield optical microscopy (inset) for P2VP-OH cast and grafted from (a) di-hydroxy terminated 4 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> and (b) mono-hydroxy terminated 10 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> and (c) mono-hydroxy terminated 16 kg mol<sup>-1</sup>.



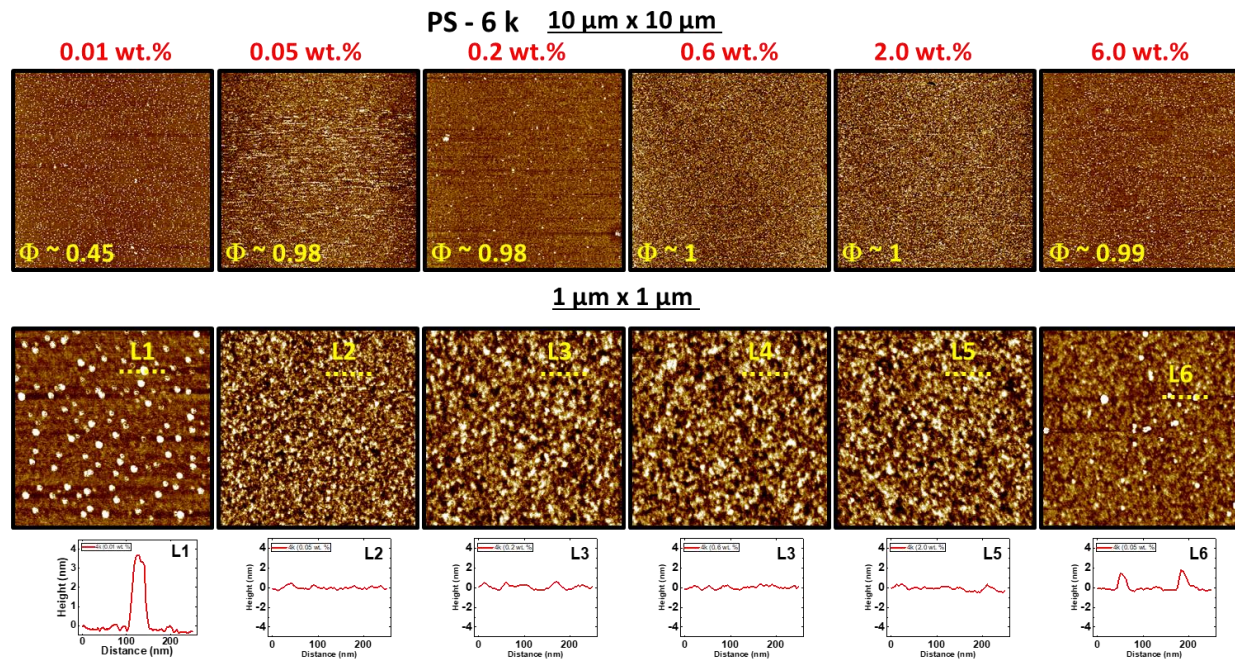
**Figure S6** Dynamic light scattering data of P2VP casting solutions for **(a)** 0.2 wt. % ( $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$ ) and **(b)** 2.0 wt. % ( $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$ ) showing the effect of concentration on agglomeration size. **(c)** Average agglomeration size as a function of molecular weight (4 – 16  $\text{kg mol}^{-1}$ ) at fixed concentration (0.2 wt. %).



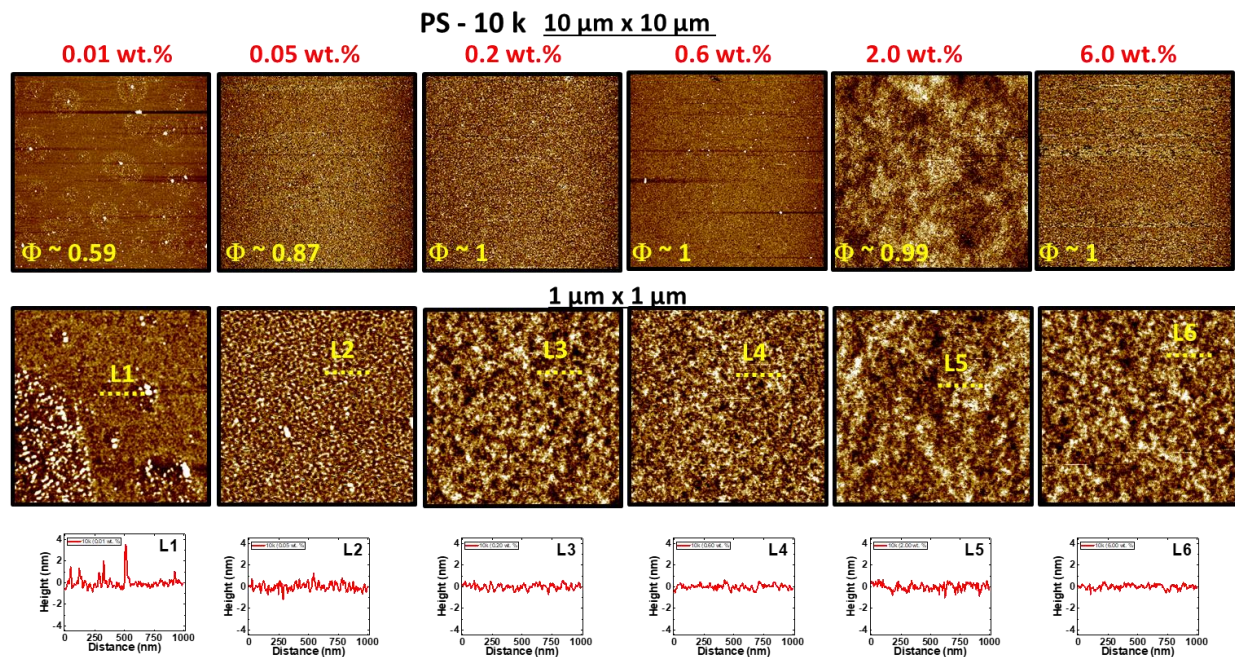
**Figure S7** (a) Apolar (dispersive) and polar surface energy and (b) Lewis acid (A<sup>+</sup>) and Lewis base (B<sup>-</sup>) interactions for annealed brush samples over a range of concentrations (0.01 – 6.0 wt. %). The dashed lines are a guide for the eye.



## Section S2 – PS Brush Monolayer Formation

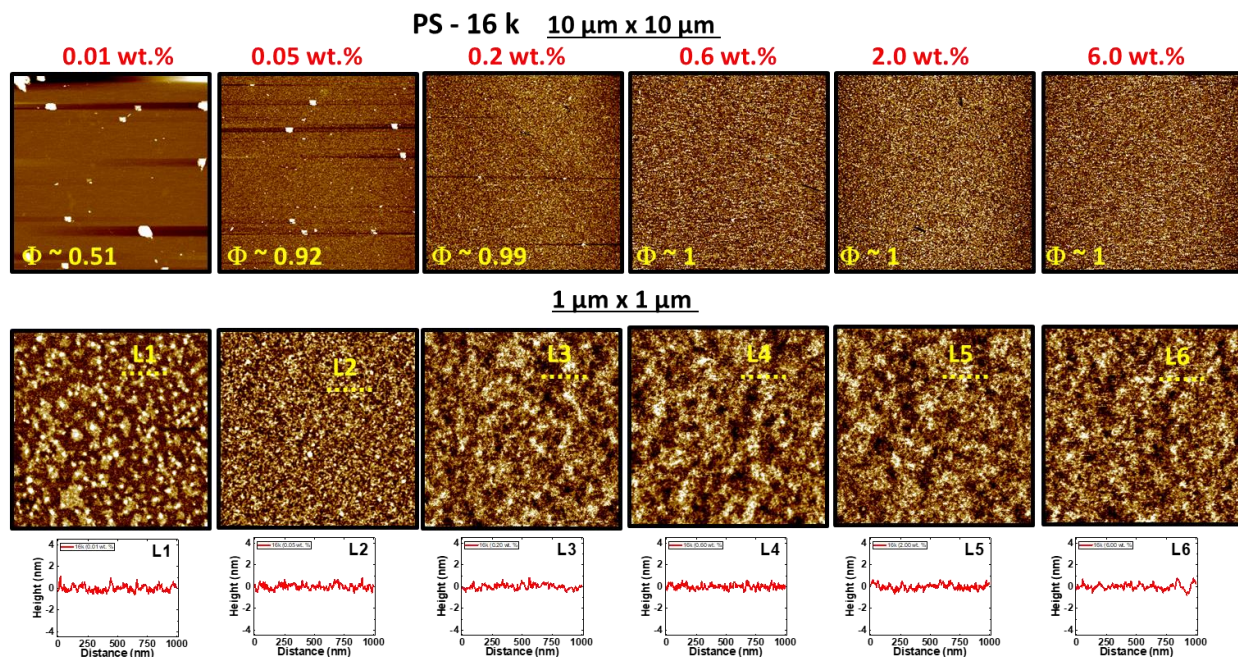


**Figure S8** AFM images with roughness profile at L1 – L6 for the  $6\ \text{kg mol}^{-1}$  PS-OH grafted at various concentration (0.01 – 6.0 wt. %). High coverage monolayer formation is evident even at very high casting concentrations.

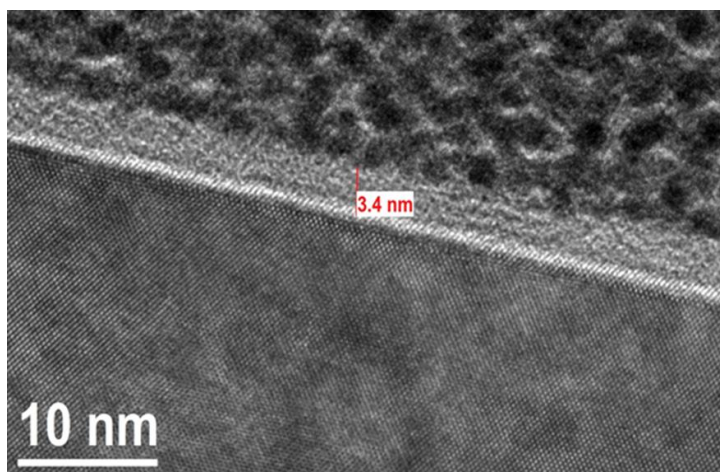


**Figure S9** AFM images with roughness profile at L1 – L6 for the  $10\ \text{kg mol}^{-1}$  PS-OH grafted at various concentration (0.01 – 6.0 wt. %). High coverage monolayer formation is evident even at very high casting concentrations.



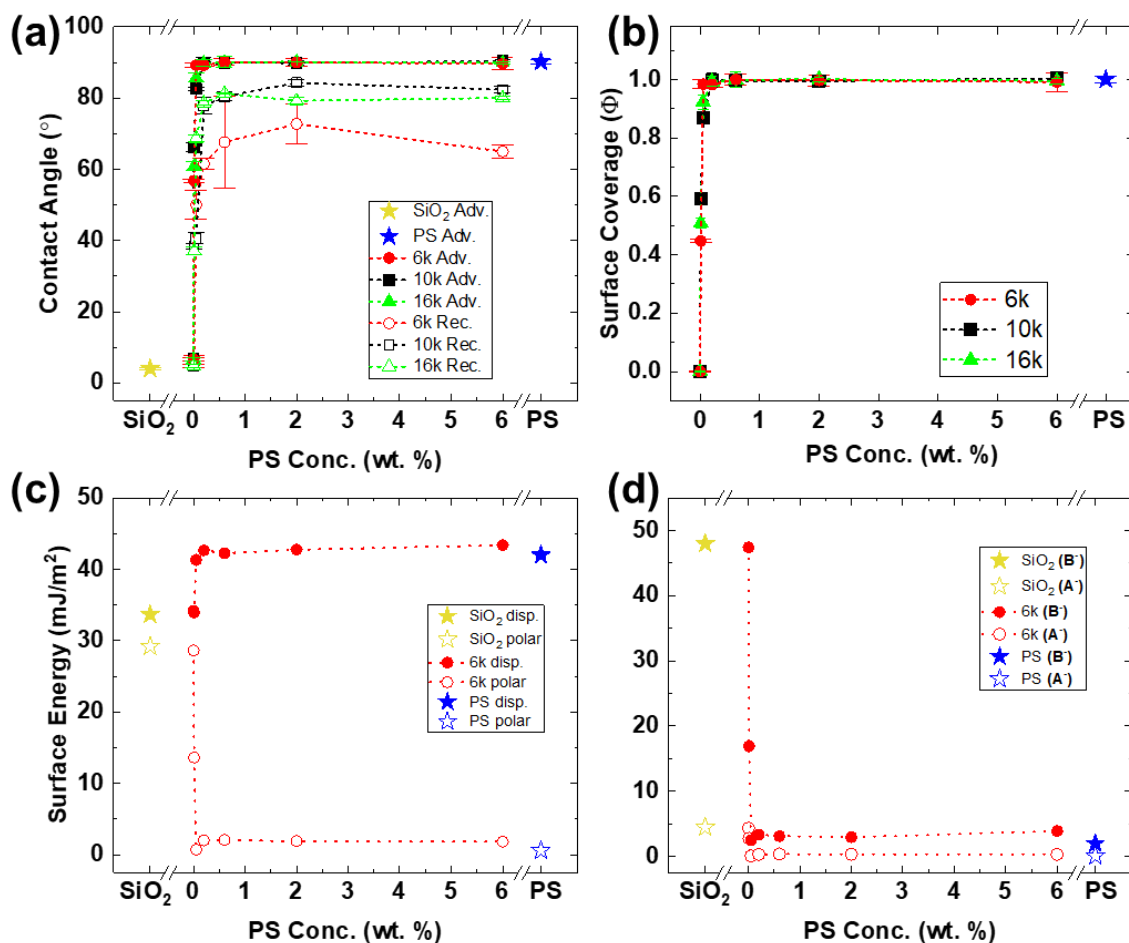


**Figure S10** AFM images with roughness profile at L1 – L6 for the  $16\ \text{kg mol}^{-1}$  PS-OH grafted at various concentration (0.01 – 6.0 wt. %). High coverage monolayer formation is evident even at very high casting concentrations.



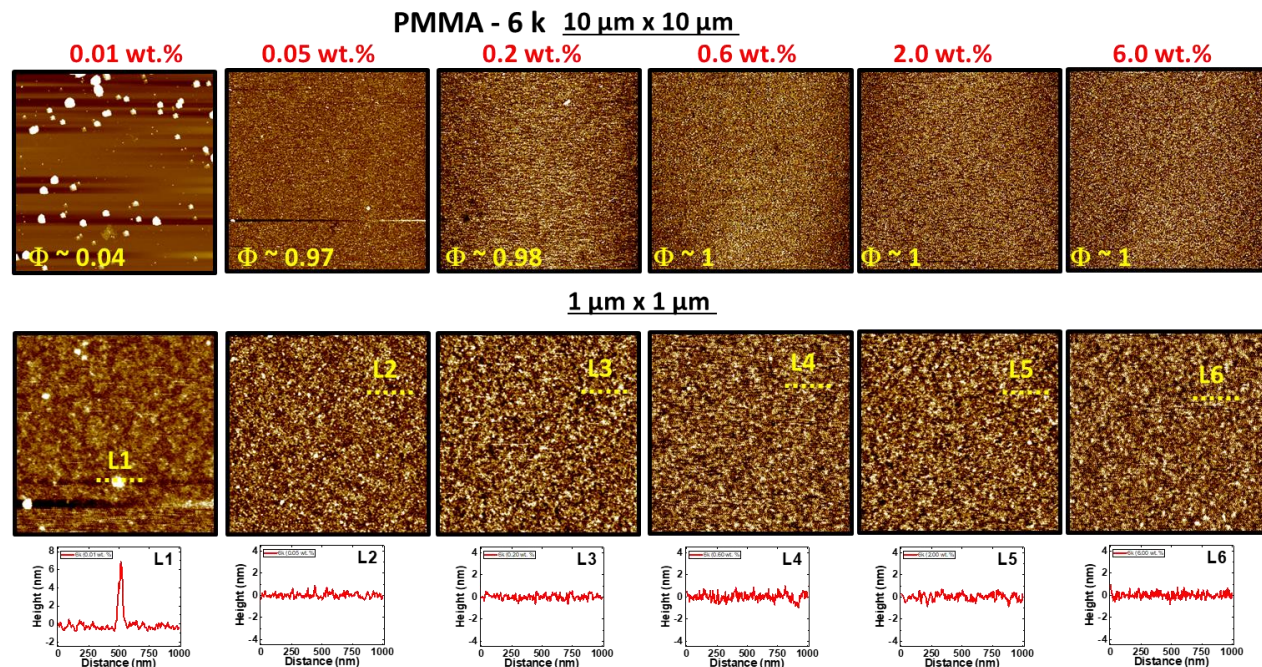
**Figure S11** Bright-field TEM image of the  $6\ \text{kg mol}^{-1}$  PS-OH sample.



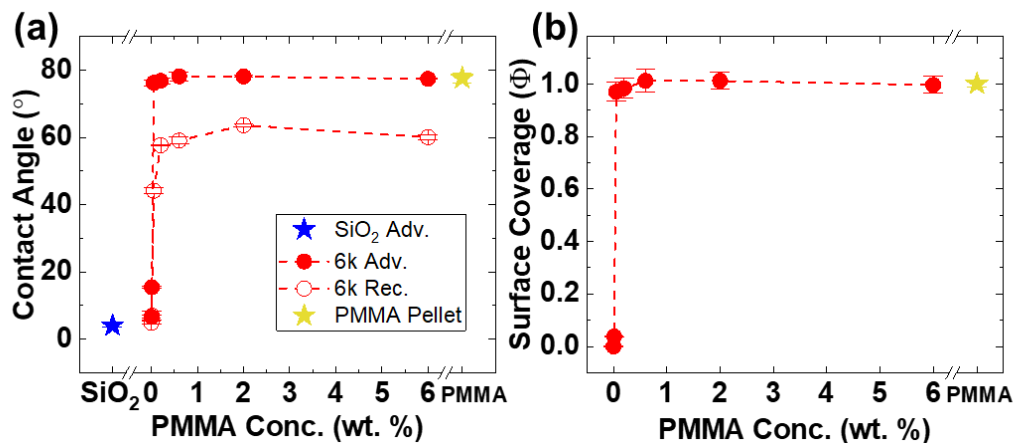


**Figure S12** (a) Water contact angles of the PS-OH brush samples ( $6 - 16 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$ ) annealed over a range of concentrations ( $0.01 - 6.0 \text{ wt. \%}$ ) with corresponding coverage (b). (c) Apolar (dispersive) and polar surface energy and (d) Lewis acid ( $A^+$ ) and Lewis base ( $B^-$ ) interactions for the  $6 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$  annealed brush. The dashed lines are a guide for the eye.

## Section S3 – PMMA Brush Monolayer Formation

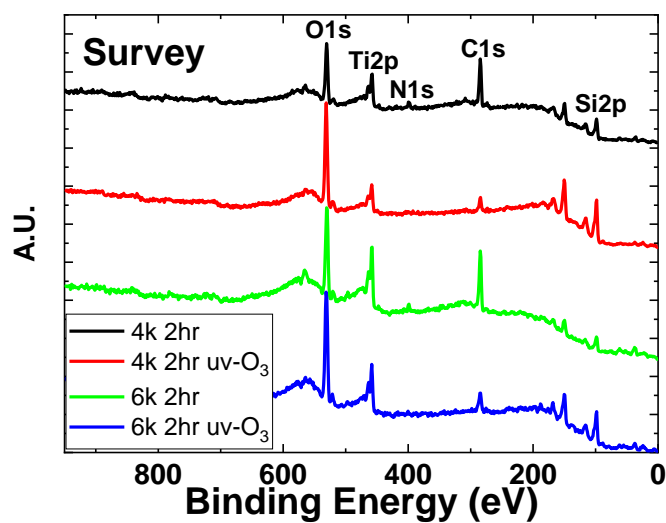


**Figure S13** AFM images with roughness profile at L1 – L6 for the  $6\ \text{kg mol}^{-1}$  PMMA-OH grafted at various concentrations (0.01 – 6.0 wt. %). High coverage monolayer formation is evident even at very high casting concentrations.

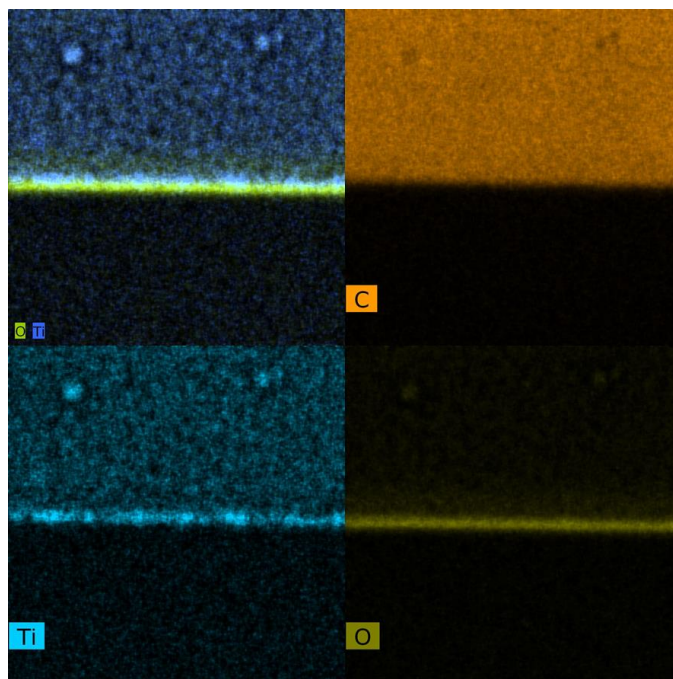


**Figure S14** (a) Water contact angles of the PS-OH brush samples ( $6 - 16\ \text{kg mol}^{-1}$ ) annealed over a range of concentrations (0.01 – 6.0 wt. %) with corresponding coverage (b). The dashed lines are a guide for the eye.

## Section S4 – Brush Exposure to Titanium Isopropoxide

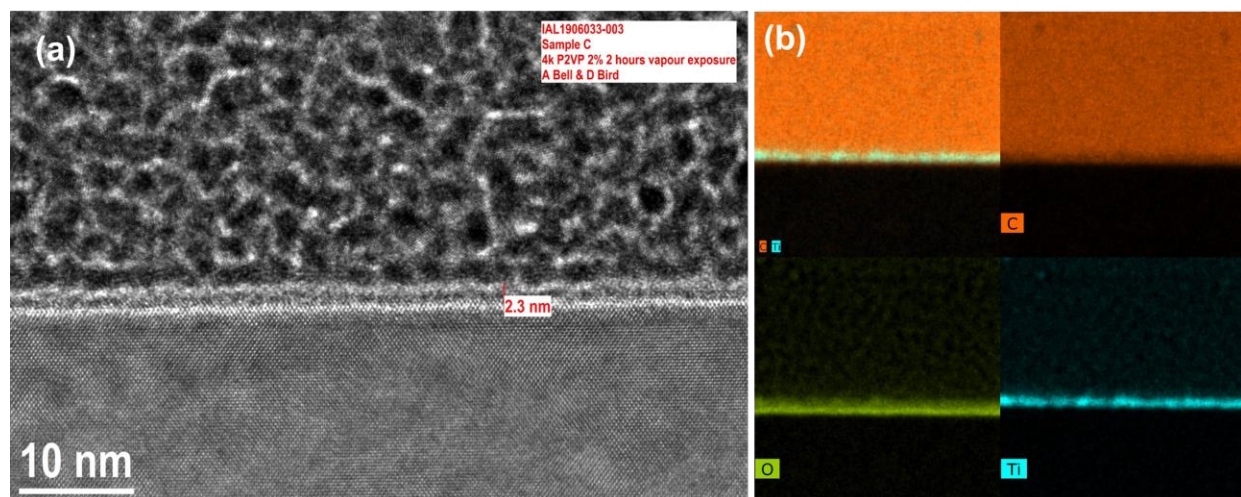


**Figure S15** XPS survey spectra of grafted 4 and 6 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> P2VP sample exposed to TTIP and after subsequent uv/ozone treatment.

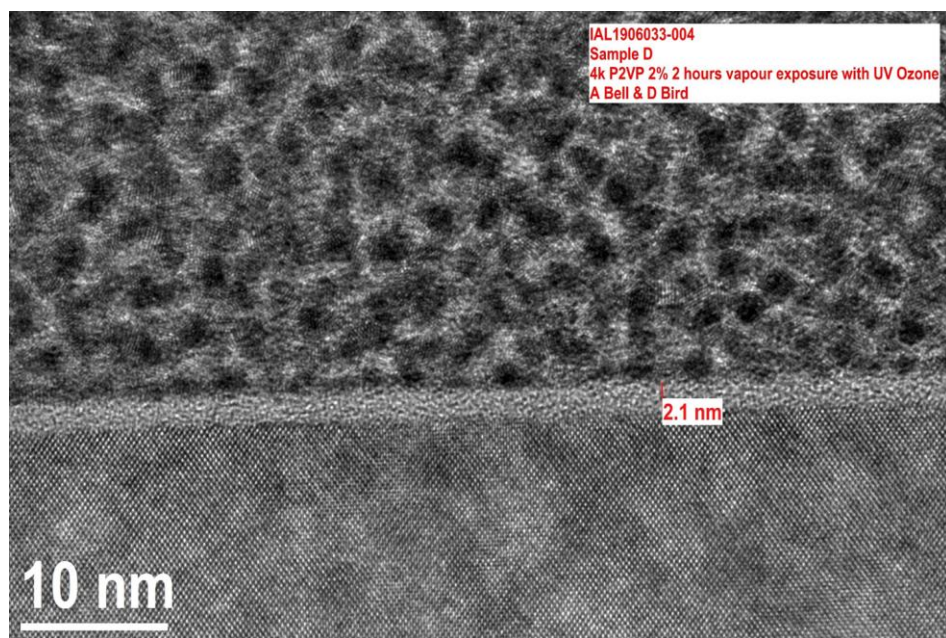


**Figure S16** EDX maps (C, Ti, O) of the 6 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> P2VP brush sample exposed to TTIP (before UV/ozone treatment)



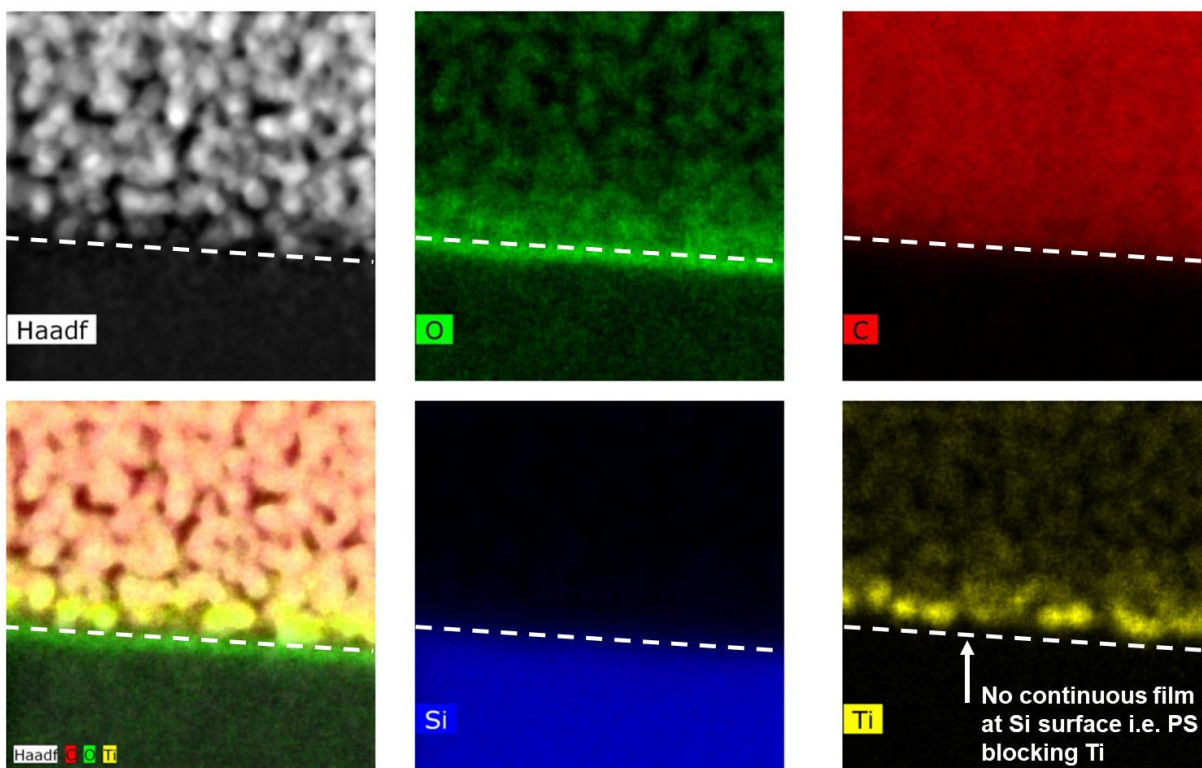


**Figure S17** (a) Bright-field TEM image of the 4 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> P2VP brush sample exposed to TTIP (before uv/ozone treatment) and (b) the corresponding EDX maps (Ti, C, O).



**Figure S18** Bright-field TEM image of the titanium dioxide film formed from the 4 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> P2VP brush sample (after uv/ozone treatment)





**Figure S19** STEM image (HAADF) and EDX maps (O, C, Si, Ti) of the 6 kg mol<sup>-1</sup> PS grafted polymer after exposure to TTIP.