

ICS 71.080.60

CCS G 16



**NATIONAL STANDARD OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

GB/T 338-2025

Replacing GB/T 338-2011

Methanol for industrial use

工业用甲醇

Issued on: October 31, 2025

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Foreword

This document was issued on 31 October 2025 by the State Administration for Market Regulation and the Standardization Administration of the People's Republic of China, and has been in force since 1 May 2026.

It replaces GB/T 338-2011.

The document is under the responsibility of the China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation.

Classification: ICS 71.080.60, CCS G 16.

1 Scope

GB/T 338-2025 is the Chinese national standard covering industrial methanol as traded - the purity and the density, the water, the acetone and ethanol, the acidity and the permanganate time that reveals oxidisable impurities, and the appearance, on one of the largest volume chemicals in China. It replaces GB/T 338-2011, with the purity analysis method GB/T 46434-2025. In force from 1 May 2026. It was issued on 31 October 2025 and has been in force since 1 May 2026, replacing GB/T 338-2011. The document is under the responsibility of the China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation. This page is published from the official record of the 2025 edition; the clause text of a standard this recent is not yet in circulation, and the figures, limits and tables it contains are those of the document itself, delivered in full with the English translation.

About this edition

GB/T 338-2025 is the current edition. It was issued on 31 October 2025 and has been in force since 1 May 2026, replacing GB/T 338-2011.

GB/T 338-2011 has been superseded: a specification that still cites it is citing a withdrawn edition.

The interval between issue and effect is the transition period. It exists so that producers, laboratories and buyers can requalify products, revise procedures and use up documentation before the new text becomes the one that applies. The date on this page is the official one from the record of the Standardization Administration.

Classification and status

GB/T 338-2025 is classified under ICS 71.080.60, in the field of chemical technology. ICS is the International Classification for Standards, the same scheme used by ISO and by the national bodies of most countries, which is what allows a Chinese standard to be placed beside its foreign counterparts on subject rather than on number.

Its Chinese Standard Classification code is CCS G 16. CCS is the domestic scheme, a letter for the sector and two digits for the subject within it, and it is the code by which the standard is filed and searched in China.

The GB/T prefix marks a recommended national standard. It is not, in itself, law: it becomes binding when a contract names it, when a regulation or a mandatory standard refers to it, or when a producer declares conformity with it. In practice that covers most of the cases in which it will be read - a purchase specification, an inspection agreement or a certification scheme.

The document is under the responsibility of the China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation, which is the body that maintains it and that will answer a formal question about its interpretation.

How a Chinese national standard is set out

Chinese national standards are drafted to the rules of GB/T 1.1, which fixes the order in which a standard is set out. The document opens with a foreword recording the issuing bodies, the relationship to any previous edition and the technical committee responsible for it. Clause 1 is the scope. Clause 2 lists the normative references - the other standards that have to be applied together with this one, and without which its requirements cannot be met. Clause 3 gives the terms and definitions. The technical clauses follow: the requirements themselves, the test or measurement methods by which conformity is established, the inspection rules that say how a lot is sampled and judged, and, for a product standard, the provisions on marking, packaging, transport and storage. Annexes, normative or informative, come last.

What is delivered is the complete document in that order: every clause, every table, every figure and every annex of the Chinese original, with the same numbering, so that a reference to a clause number in a contract or a test report points to the same place in both languages.