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

GB/T 4236-2025

Replacing GB/T 4236-2016

Steel-examination by sulphur print

钢的硫印检验方法

(English Translation)

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Foreword

GB/T 4236-2025 is a recommended national standard (GB/T) of the People's Republic of China, issued on 29 August 2025 by the State Administration for Market Regulation and the Standardization Administration of China, with effect from 1 March 2026.

This edition replaces GB/T 4236-2016.

The document adopts an international standard (ISO or IEC).

It is under the responsibility of the China Iron and Steel Association.

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1 Scope

Sulphur printing is a macro-examination technique that reveals how sulphide inclusions are distributed across a steel section. This standard describes the examination of steel by sulphur print, giving metallurgists and quality laboratories a recognised national reference for carrying out and interpreting the test.

It is used by steelmakers checking segregation and sulphide distribution in billets, blooms and forgings, by testing laboratories that report on steel quality, and by purchasers who include sulphur print examination in their material specifications. Technical staff in forging and heavy fabrication plants may also refer to it when investigating the soundness of a product.

The standard was issued on 29 August 2025 and takes effect on 1 March 2026, replacing GB/T 4236-2016. As a recommended national standard it is voluntary, but it is commonly invoked by product standards and supply agreements. Laboratories whose procedures still cite the 2016 edition should update their documented methods once the new edition applies.