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**MINTING ERRORS IN ANCIENT ROME: DOUBLE DIE STRIKES  
IN THE LIGHT OF COIN FINDS FROM SECTOR XII AT NOVAE (BULGARIA)**

**Abstract:** This article analyses double die strikes as a production error in ancient Roman minting, using as an example coins found in Novae (Bulgaria). These coins, struck during the reigns of Gordian III, Elagabalus, and Gallienus, offer a unique glimpse into the minting techniques, organisational challenges, and economic realities of the third century. The author highlights the significance of double strikes as an indicator of production stress during the political and economic crises of the Roman Empire. A comparison of production flaws from Novae with similar phenomena in minting centres and other cities like Ephesus, Antioch, and Rome, reveals both the universality of the problem and local technical conditions. This study provides new insights into the oversight mechanisms in ancient mints and the ways in which production processes were adjusted in response to changing circumstances.

**Keywords:** double die strikes, Roman minting, Novae, production errors, provincial coins