To: UTC
From: Peter Edberg
Date: Nov. 1, 2013
Subj: Prevent line break between '/' and Hebrew letter

CLDR 24 (and ICU 52) added a tailoring of the root line break to prevent break opportunities between solidus '/' (class SY) and a following Hebrew-script letter (class HL). This was due to the following CLDR ticket, which was in turn based on input from a Hebrew linguist at Apple:
• http://unicode.org/cldr/trac/ticket/6116 No line break between SY and HL

Quoting that: "Hebrew makes extensive use of the / character to create gender-neutral verb forms, with the feminine suffix coming after the slash…These should not be split across lines. Note: It is quite rare in Hebrew to use a slash other than in this context." However, there are rare cases in which a break could legitimately occur between SY and HL.

I propose that this behavior be added to UAX #14. It should not affect behavior for other scripts, and for nearly all such cases in Hebrew it will be an improvement. Adding this to UAX #14 would also eliminate the current single discrepancy between UAX #14 and CLDR root line break, which causes maintenance issues for test data (among other problems).

The proposed rule is:
LB21b *Don't break between Solidus and Hebrew*
$$SY \times HL$$

(Break before SY is already prevented by rule LB13)