

Title: Proposal to encode a German trademark symbol in the UCS

Source: Karl Pentzlin

Status: Individual Contribution

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC

Date: 2009-01-25

Addition for German dictionary use



U+1F1xx

LATIN WZ ENCLOSED IN ELLIPSE

- consisting of a capital W and a small z
 - from the German term "Warenzeichen"
 - used to indicate a trademarked term without making a legal claim of trademark status
- 00AE registered sign
→ 2122 trade mark sign

Properties:

1F1xx;LATIN WZ ENCLOSED IN ELLIPSE;So;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;

1. The Wz symbol

The Wz symbol is used in German dictionaries to identify entries as being trademarks, as e.g. is shown by [1].

As the use of the "registered trademark" symbol ® is subject to legal rules and legal claims of the trademark owners in Germany and Austria, the use of this symbol is avoided by some publishers, including the publisher of Germany's most popular dictionary, the "Duden" [1].

The Wz symbol, however, is used without any legal implications and therefore is preferred by these publishers. This implies also a semantic difference: The ® symbol implies a legal fact, while the Wz symbol gives the information that a word may be considered to be used as a trademark without claiming this as a legal fact. (It is also not comparable with the ™ symbol which also implies a legal claim, only without registering.)

Furthermore, the Wz symbol is used in certain electronic reference works, as evidenced by its appearance in the Verdana Reference font shipped with Microsoft Bookshelf products and some Microsoft Office versions ([2], p.3).

2. References

[1] Duden, Die deutsche Rechtschreibung (German Orthography), Vol. 1, 20th edition, Mannheim 1991. ISBN 3-411-04010-6 (*the most popular German dictionary*).

[2] Asmus Freytag: What is this character? Revision of 2003-02-01,
http://www.unicode.org/~asmus/what_is_this_character.pdf (as of 2009-01-25)

3. Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Asmus Freytag for thoroughly discussing this subject and for valuable hints.

4. Examples

Ⓜ Das Zeichen Ⓜ macht als Warenzeichen geschützte Wörter (Bezeichnungen, Namen) kenntlich. Sollte dieses Zeichen einmal fehlen, so ist das keine Gewähr dafür, daß das Wort als Handelsname frei verwendet werden darf.

Fig. 1: Scan from [1], p. 9, giving the explanation for the Wz symbol.

For|ma|llie [...iə], die; -, -n *meist Plur.* (formale Einzelheit, Äußerlichkeit)
For|ma|llin Ⓜ, das; -s (ein Konservierungs-, Desinfektionsmittel)
for|ma|ll|sie|ren (franz.) (in [strenge] Form bringen; formal dar-

Molekulargewicht angibt);
Gram|mo|phon Ⓜ, das; -s, -e (griech.) (Gerät zum Abspielen von Schallplatten)
gram_ne|ga|tiv, ...**po|si|tiv** († R 136); *vgl.* Gram-Färbung
gram|voll

Fig. 2: Two scans from [1] (p. 277; p. 312), both showing examples of the Wz symbol.

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646¹**

Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html> for guidelines and details before filling this form.

Please ensure you are using the latest Form from <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html>.

See also <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html> for latest Roadmaps.

A. Administrative

1. Title:	<i>Proposal to encode a German trademark symbol in the UCS</i>		
2. Requester's name:	<i>Karl Pentzlin</i>		
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):	<i>Individual Contribution</i>		
4. Submission date:	<i>2008-01-25</i>		
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):			
6. Choose one of the following:			
This is a complete proposal:			<i>Yes</i>
(or) More information will be provided later:			

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:			
a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):			<i>No</i>
Proposed name of script:			
b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:			<i>Yes</i>
Name of the existing block:	<i>Enclosed Alphanumeric Supplement</i>		
2. Number of characters in proposal:			<i>1</i>
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):			
A-Contemporary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B.1-Specialized (small collection)	<input type="checkbox"/>	B.2-Specialized (large collection)
C-Major extinct <input type="checkbox"/>	D-Attested extinct	<input type="checkbox"/>	E-Minor extinct
F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic	<input type="checkbox"/>	G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols	
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?			<i>Yes</i>
a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?			
b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?			<i>Yes</i>
5. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?			
If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:	<i>contained in versions of the "Verdana Ref" font available from Microsoft</i>		
6. References:			
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?			<i>Yes</i>
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?			<i>Yes</i>
7. Special encoding issues:			
Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)?			<i>No</i>

8. Additional Information:

Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at <http://www.unicode.org> for such information on other scripts. Also see <http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UCD.html> and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

¹ Form number: N3152-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05)

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?	no
If YES explain	
2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?	no
If YES, with whom?	
If YES, available relevant documents:	
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?	see text
Reference:	
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)	common
Reference:	
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?	yes
If YES, where? Reference: see text	
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?	no
If YES, is a rationale provided?	
If YES, reference:	
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	n/a
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?	no
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	
If YES, reference:	
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?	no
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	
If YES, reference:	
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?	no
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	
If YES, reference:	
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?	no
If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?	
If YES, reference:	
Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?	
If YES, reference:	
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?	no
If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)	
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?	no
If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?	
If YES, reference:	