Proposal to encode the POSTAL MARK ENCLOSED IN DOWN POINTING TRIANGLE

Eduardo Marín Silva

01/02/2018

Introduction. This character in particular was discussed during UTC 154 because it was included in the original DPKR proposal, here I propose it with different rationale and separately from the other symbols from my original proposal: https://www.unicode.org/L2/L2018/18004-compat-dprk.pdf.

Use of the character. According to various sources, the character is also used in Japan to indicate that an electrical appliance is of the A type, while the CIRCLED POSTAL MARK \bigcirc is used to indicate B type appliances. The distinction between the two is that of likelihood of accident. It is perhaps this reason why it was included in the Morisawa and Sha Ken glyph sets. It is unknown why the original version of the KPS 9566 standard included it or why it was removed in more recent versions.

Rationale for encoding. While it is no longer present in the most recent version of the KPS 9566 standard, that only means it is not required for roundtrip compatibility with newer versions, but potentially great amounts of legacy data (which may be of historical significance) may contain the symbol.

Its use as a marker of electrical compliance, while not a reason for encoding, it's a reason to consider since it seems arbitrary to encode one of the symbols but not the other.

Since the circled postal mark was encoded so soon, there is no document to refer to, for the original rationale, so perhaps it was included for reasons unrelated to the electrical national standard. But even the consortium recognizes the lack of semantic distinction by giving the CIRCLED POSTAL MARK a compatibility mapping to the POSTAL MARK $\overline{\tau}$. In other words, whatever the reason for including the circled postal mark should be enough to include this symbol.

Why atomic encoding is better. The only methods to encode a glyph are as follows:

- Proprietary font
- Standardized Variation Sequence
- Grapheme cluster sequence
- Atomic encoding

The two first methods suffer from the same problem, in that there is no obvious base character to modify. One could suggest POSTAL MARK U+3012, but the presence of other enclosed characters has set the precedent several times, that enclosed versions of characters are not unifiable. Requiring users to map the character to another codepoint would be against the consortium's principles.

Another option is to compose it, but this would require the encoding of a COMBINING ENCLOSING DOWN POINTING TRIANGLE, and support for the enclosing characters is currently lacking, not just at the font level but at the rendering engine level. The consortium has encoded characters like the CIRCLED DIGIT ONE even though there was already a COMBINING ENCLOSING CIRCLE to compose it with. And this potential new character would only be used by the postal mark, so it is not ideal.

Name. During discussion, it was brought up that the name was not adequate because the character in question had nothing to do with postage, but this is however fallacious. The name was intended to adequately describe the glyph; indeed, a similar name was proposed by the DPRK in their original proposal (WHITE DOWN-POINTING TRIANGLE WITH POSTAL MARK). That's like saying that the name LATIN CROSS is inadequate, because the

character in question has nothing to do with the verb "cross". The same way that cross is a generic term, so it's postal mark.

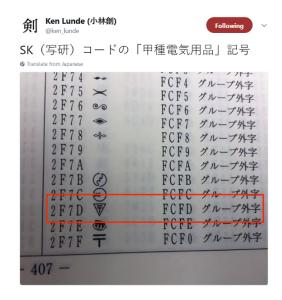
I can say with certainty that both North Korean and Japanese users would expect a name related to the postal mark, specially considering than in the proprietary glyph sets mentioned below it is placed adjacent to other postal mark symbols.

A possible alternative is DOWN TACK WOITH OVERBAR ENCLOSED IN DOWN POINTING TRIANGLE, or JAPANESE SYMBOL FOR TYPE A ELECTRONICS, but the consortium should use the more expected name, whatever that might be, and for that, proper consultation with the national bodies should be made.

Codepoint and reference. I suggest 16FF2 in the Ideographic Symbols and Punctuation block, with a reference to 3036, and also a reference to this character in the CIRCLED POSTAL MARK.



Tweet by Ken Lunde demonstrating its inclusion in the Morisawa glyph set.



Inclusion in the SK code glyph set along with other already encoded characters such as POSTAL MARK FACE ■ and JAPANESE INDUSTRIAL STANDARD SYMBOL ③.

행렬	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
1	\	٠	0	1	`		^	v		,	٥	1	÷	}	'	,	"	,,	()	[[
2	«	>>	$\sqrt{}$	S	\propto		S	SS	§	€	€	\subseteq	⊇	\cup	\supset	∉	∌	⊈	⊉	A	$\not\supset$	U	\cap	Λ
3	8	9								A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	M	N	0
4	ㅗ	л-	\neg	П	_	1	Ĥ	Ħ	1	1	괴	ᅱ	ᅴ	ᅪ	귬	ᅫ	ᆌ	ひ	以	เร	ਦਾ	रप	권비	ᆳ
5	Ц	Ч	Ш	Щ	Ъ	Ы	Ь	Э	Ю	Я														
6	Ω									α	β	γ	δ	3	ζ	η	θ	ι	κ	λ	μ	ν	ξ	0
7	24)	23	26	27	28	29	30			1	Ū	€	2	(T)	H	(3)	0	Ø	3	9	€	교	8	•
8	dm	dni	dm³	km	km²	km³	fm	nm	μm	%	m∕s³	μg	mg	kg	рV	nV	μV	тV	kV	MV	рA	nA	μA	mA
9	_	\exists		+	F	\top	\forall	上	+	٦	7	_	_	L	L	Г	Г	1	H		H	1	4	4
10	じ	す	ず	せ	ぜ	そ	ぞ	た	だ	ち	ぢ	っ	つ	ブ	て	で	논	بخ	な	に	ぬ	ね	の	は
11	ジ	ス	ズ	セ	ゼ	ソ	ゾ	夕	ダ	チ	ヂ	ツ	ツ	ヅ	テ	デ	ト	ド	ナ	=	ヌ	ネ	ノ	7)
12	ĵ	Û	0	0	0	0	⇔	Ĵ	-	-	1	1	1	`	`	1	-	1	*	V	^	♦	₹	$(\overline{\nabla})$

Original inclusion in the KPS 9566 standard:

(https://web.archive.org/web/20 151125222129/https://www.itsc j.ipsj.or.jp/iso-ir/202.pdf)



Page discussing the history of its use in Japan: http://www.s-ninsho.com/s history.html

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://std.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://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html.

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

A. Administrative

Title: Proposal to encode the POSTAL MARK ENCLOSED IN DOWN POINTING TRIANGLE										
2. Requester's name: Eduardo Marín Silva										
Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): Individual contribution										
4. Submission date: 01/02/2018										
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):										
6. Choose one of the following:	-									
This is a complete proposal:										
(or) More information will be provided later:	<u> </u>									
B. Technical – General										
1. Choose one of the following:										
a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters): Proposed name of script:	-									
b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:										
Name of the existing block: Ideographic Symbols and Punctuation	-									
2. Number of characters in proposal:										
Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):	-									
A-Contemporary B.1-Specialized (small collection) B.2-Specialized (large collection)										
C-Major extinct D-Attested extinct E-Minor extinct	-									
F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols	-									
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?										
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? Yes										
5. Fonts related:										
a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the										
standard?										
b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):	-									
6. References:										
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided? Yes										
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources)										
of proposed characters attached? Yes										
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)?										
processing, conting, addressing, addressing, addressing the process of colors and matterial in the process of colors and addressing the process of colors and a										
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 Unicode Character Database (http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/) and associated Unicode Technical Reports										
for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.										

¹ Form number: N4502-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, 2009-11, 2011-03, 2012-01)

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?	Yes
If YES explain This addresses the issues raised last time.	
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?	No
Reference:	
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)	common
Reference: http://www.s-ninsho.com/s_history.html	
	No
If YES, where? Reference:	
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed character	ers 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 scatter	ed)? <i>n/a</i>
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?	Yes
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	Yes
If YES, reference: Why atomic encoding is better	
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function)	• /
to, or could be confused with, 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) prov	ided?
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 characters?	No
If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified?	
If YES, reference:	