Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: **Working Group Document**
Title: **Proposal to add COMBINING GLAGOLITIC SUSPENSION MARK to the BMP of the UCS**
Source: **Michael Everson**
Status: **Individual Contribution**
Action: **For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC**
Date: **2004-05-29**

This document requests an additional character to be added to the UCS and contains the proposal summary form.

A. Administrative

1. Title
Proposal to add COMBINING GLAGOLITIC SUSPENSION MARK to the BMP of the UCS
2. Requester's name
Michael Everson
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)
Individual contribution.
4. Submission date
2004-05-29
5. Requester's reference (if applicable)
6. Choose one of the following:
6a. This is a complete proposal
Yes.
6b. More information will be provided later
No.

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)
No.
Proposed name of script
1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block
Yes.
1b. Name of the existing block
Combining Diacritical Marks Supplement
2. Number of characters in proposal
1
3. Proposed category (see section II, Character Categories)
Category B.1
4a. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3) (see clause 14, ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)
Level 3.
4b. Is a rationale provided for the choice?
Yes.
4c. If YES, reference
Combining character.
5a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?
Yes.

5b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the character naming guidelines in Annex L of ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000?
Yes.

5c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?
Yes.

6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?
Michael Everson. TrueType.

6b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:
Michael Everson. Fontographer.

7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
No.

7b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?
Yes.

8. 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)?
Yes, see below.

9. 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/Public/UNIDATA/ UnicodeCharacterDatabase.html and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.
Yes, see Unicode properties below.

C. Technical – Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.
No.

2a. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?
Yes.

2b. If YES, with whom?
Ralph Cleminson and Andrew Corin, specialists in Slavistics and Glagolitic.

2c. If YES, available relevant documents
L2/04-051.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?
Yes.

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)
Used in Glagolitic.

4b. Reference
See examples below.

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?
Yes.

5b. If YES, where?
See examples below.

6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in Principles and Procedures document (a WG 2 standing document) must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?
Yes.

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?
Yes.

6c. If YES, reference
Keep with other combining marks.

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?
N/A.

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?
No.
8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
8c. If YES, reference
9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?
No.
9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
9c. If YES, reference
10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?
No.
10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?
10c. If YES, reference
11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences (see clauses 4.12 and 4.14 in ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)?
Yes.
11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?
No.
11c. If YES, reference
12a. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?
No.
12b. If YES, reference
13a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?
No.
13b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)
14a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?
No.
14b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?
14c. If YES, reference

D. Proposal

A distinct Glagolitic suspension mark is attested in the manuscript codices. In 1991 Andrew Corin described the distinctness of this mark in *The New York Missal: a Paleographic and Phonetic Analysis* (Columbus, Ohio: Slavica Publishers, pp. 38-39 and passim.). The suspension mark was originally a contextual variant of what has been encoded as U+0483 COMBINING CYRILLIC TITLO, the symbol used to indicate abbreviation. Both contraction and suspension were used in Glagolitic to form abbreviations; contraction was most common, where a TITLO was written above the contracted portion of a word. A small number of words were regularly abbreviated (in any context) by suspension, using just the first letter of the word. When this was done, most scribes used the COMBINING GLAGOLITIC SUSPENSION MARK proposed here, usually in the form of a short diagonal stroke reminiscent of an ACUTE ACCENT or an APOSTROPHE, occasionally with some curvature or a central angle.

This alternate form of the TITLO proved very useful, serving as an indication that the single letter did indeed represent an abbreviation – so Ⱄ̆ is an abbreviation of the noun ⰔⰎⰑⰂⰑ *slovo*, not the preposition Ⱄ *s* or another word like ⰔⰋⰐ *sin´* (which would be abbreviated to ⰔⰐ), nor the numeral Ⱄ̂ 200."

1DC2   ̮̇   COMBINING GLAGOLITIC SUSPENSION MARK

Unicode Character Properties

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1DC2;COMBINING GLAGOLITIC SUSPENSION MARK;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
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Figure

MS 1391
Statutes or Rules of Association of a Lay Fraternity. Croatia, early 15th c. Glagolitic book script

Figure 1. From an early 15th-century Croatian manuscript (from MS 1391, the Statutes or Rules of Association of a Lay Fraternity on Krk). The featherless arrows point to the SUSPENSION MARK; the feathered arrow points to a TITLO.

Figure 2. Two examples of the Glagolitic Suspension Mark (from the same page of the document).
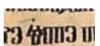

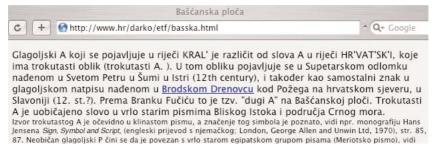**Figure 3.** Example of a titlo in Glagolitic (from the same page of the document).

Figure 4. Example of the correct spelling of TROKUTASTI A. Compare this with the Irish and U.S. comments on the name of this character.