

Braille Authority of North America PRESS RELEASE December 2010 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Computer Braille Code (CBC) Update Special Symbols Page

The Braille Authority of North America (BANA) announces an update to the *Computer Braille Code:* 2000 Revision (CBC), Rule 3.3, Symbols.

Standard Computer Braille Code symbols, including any symbols that have been devised by the transcriber, should be listed on a "Special Symbols" page. These symbols must be transcribed in accordance with the rules of the *Braille Formats: Principles of Print to Braille Transcription* (latest edition).

In CBC, there are often paired symbols, such as the symbols which begin and end Computer Braille Code. To make the CBC section of the Special Symbols Page more user-friendly, the BANA CBC Technical Committee devised an order in which these symbols should appear on the Special Symbols page no matter what order they appear in the document. Transcribers may use this order as a checklist when creating a document, making it easier to determine which CBC symbols are included in transcribing a document.

This update, including the newly devised ordering of the CBC symbols, is posted on the website of the Braille Authority of North America at <u>http://www.brailleauthority.org</u>.

The mission and purpose of the Braille Authority of North America are to assure literacy for tactile readers through the standardization of braille and/or tactile graphics. BANA promotes and facilitates the use, teaching, and production of braille. It publishes rules, interprets and renders opinions pertaining to braille in all existing codes. It deals with codes now in existence or to be developed in the future, in collaboration with other countries using English braille. In exercising its function and authority, BANA considers the effects of its decisions on other existing braille codes and formats; the ease of production by various methods; and acceptability to readers.

For additional resource information, visit www.brailleauthority.org