In the following font sample, the two base characters have the same diacritic over them. But since the second diacritic uses code U+00AD, it doesn't show up unless it happens to force a hyphen break!

I® ö­

This problem is no uncommon in many parts of the world of the Roman script world (and parts of the non-Roman world) where fonts have been created that while they claim to be conformant to codepage 1252, they actually cheat and reassign meaning to many of the characters. While this isn't a good thing and Unicode will alleviate much of the need, there is value in providing the backward compatibility that tries to make such fonts 8-bit clean for some notion of clean!

TIA,

Martin Hosken