# Information sector: towards a 2007 classification

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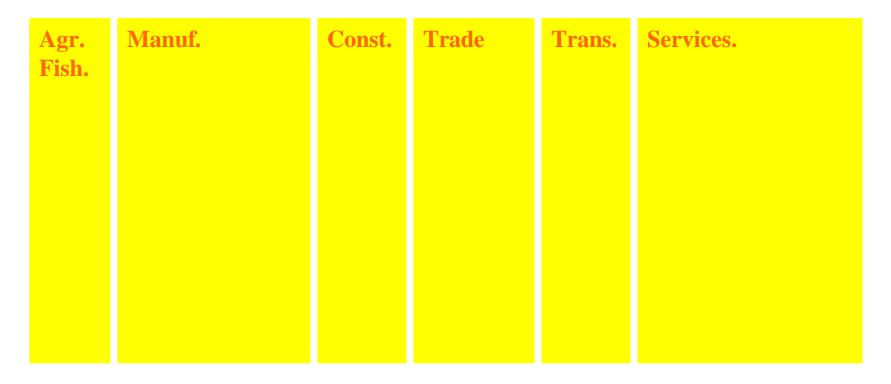
ACN conference Paris, November 21-22, 2001

#### First of all

- This presentation is
  - a contribution for a convergence of the point of views
  - enlarging the debate to other linked problems
  - probably with more questions than answers
- These views include the constraints linked to the whole classification
  - and not only the Information sector ones
- The target remains the international convergence
  - not the national one with its local juridical and organisational aspects.

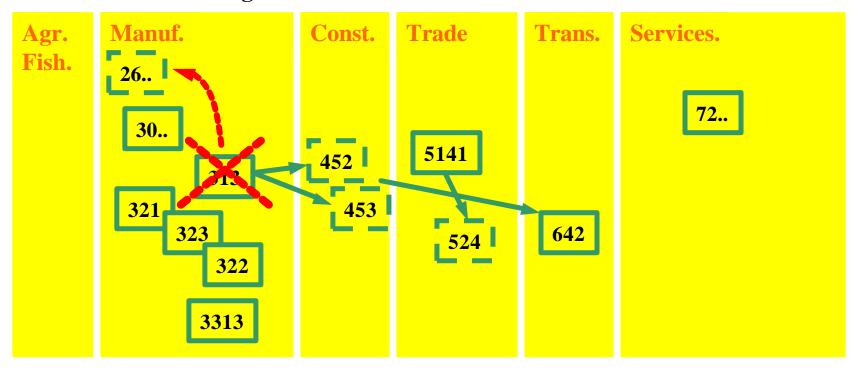
# ICTs, Information sector and contents: not actually co-ordinated

ISIC rev3.1 reference



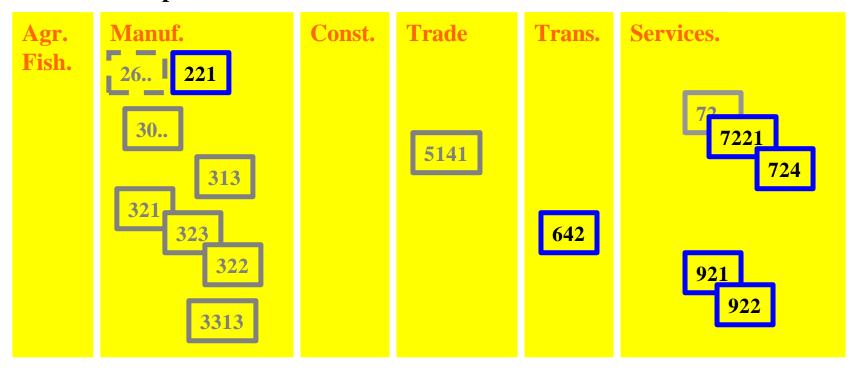
## The (present) ICTs definition

Activities which contribute to the display, processing, storing and transmission of information through electronic means.



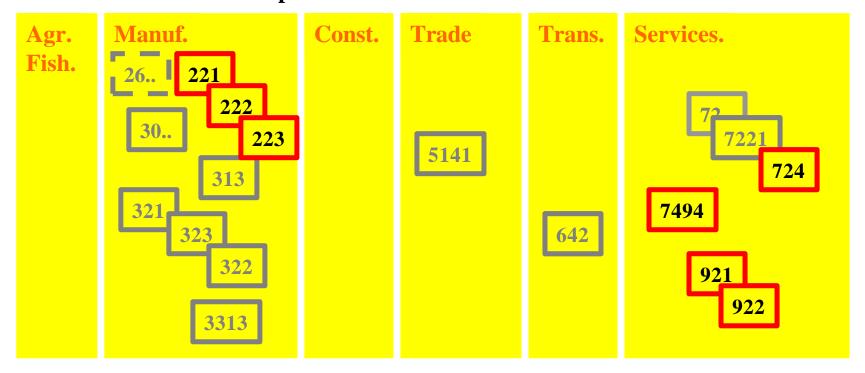
#### The NAICS information sector

Activities which produce and disseminate or allow to disseminate information and cultural products.



## The proposed sector of contents

Activities primarily engaged in publishing and/or electronic distribution of contents products.



## The proposed sector of contents

#### Two remarks concerning the content of the contents

- Advertising
  - There is a content.
  - Not published (or the publisher is the announcer)
  - A service to this announcer, only
- Combined activities (many exemples in this area: publishing/reproduction, broadcast/transmission, production/distribution of films, distribution/projection of films)
  - common rules?
    - to the downstream activity, depending on the value added
  - or specific analysis?

### A basic clarification

#### Groupings versus classification

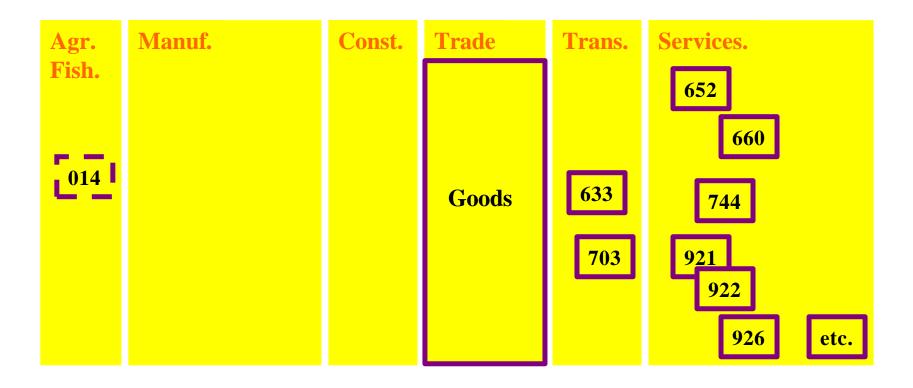
- The NAICS objective:
  - An information sector in a given classification
- The OECD objective:
  - An alternate grouping for a given purpose
- The content objective:
  - An activity network about the content definition

### Second clarification

- According to running activity classifications, only **goods** can be traded in the trade section
- Since only services are consumed as soon as they are produced, trade of services is not put apart from **production** of services
- Trade of services is mentionned only in explanatory notes of services section.
- Therefore, classification of trade is **heterogeneous**

### Second clarification

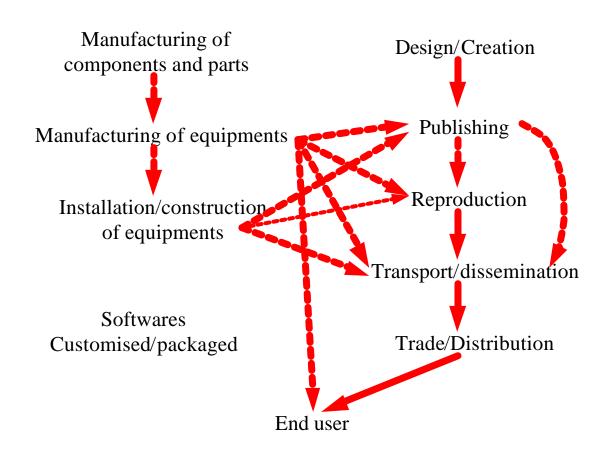
#### **Consequence:**



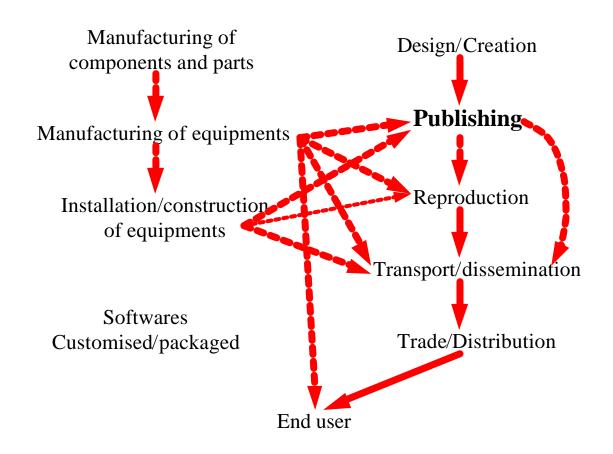
#### Reminder

- A classification is not only a definition corpus but a **structure as well** 
  - Groupings, hierarchy
  - According to general principles
- An economic activity is the conjunction of three inseparable elements:
  - Input → Process → Output (+ Destination maybe)
  - For services: input is a secondary element
- Present exceptions: car services (50), hard/software services (72). ...
- Concepts for an « information » sector must be coherent with classification concepts

# An attempt of modelling the activities involved in « information »



# The core of an information sector: publishing



# Why publishing the core?

- Prior to publishing: the original
  - Sure, there is a true activity (if performed by a «professional»)
    - which is a service
  - But what is the output?
    - either nothing (not known, no transaction)
    - or an asset (valued at its production cost)
- The input of publishing
  - The right of use the original (exclusive or not)
  - And an asset (before to be really «used»)
- The output of the publishing:
  - a content or an information product
  - an «intangible good»
  - materialized later or not

# Media material vs dissemination: two networks

#### Media material

- A necessary reproduction
  - a manufacturing process: from an intangible good to a tangible one
  - but no change of the product «nature»
  - So,an industrial service
- The process
  - as for goods (conventional transports and trade ways)

#### **Dissemination**

- No reproduction process
- Broadcasting and telecommunication provide the reproduction and the transport means
- The distribution problem

# The trade of services problem

#### The «books» case

- Books can be on paper, on CD-Rom, on line
- But it is still the same «product» (the media do not change the content)
- So, why various items for trading books in classifications?

#### More generally

- distributors/traders of services go between suppliers and users as other units of the trade section.
- With their growing number why not grouping them with the other trading activities?

### Useful grouping(s) for information?

#### At least six different groupings (instead of about 25 nowdays)

- Manufacturing
  - Equipments for the information
  - Reproduction services
- Construction (of telecommunication networks)
- Trade
  - Trade of services
  - With the other trading activities?
- Telecommunications (transport)
- Publishers (grouped together)
- Other services (softwares, customised but also packaged?)

#### **Groupings** + **Transfers**



#### **Groupings**

+ Transfers

#### **Components** difficult to group



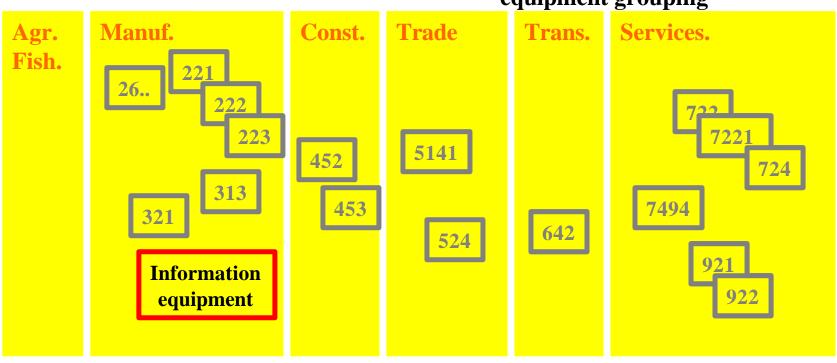
#### **Groupings**

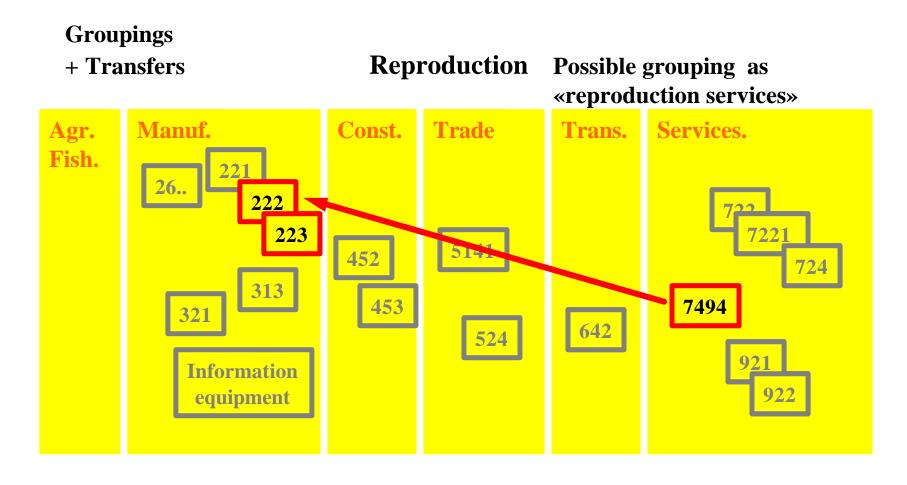
+ Transfers Equipments Possible information

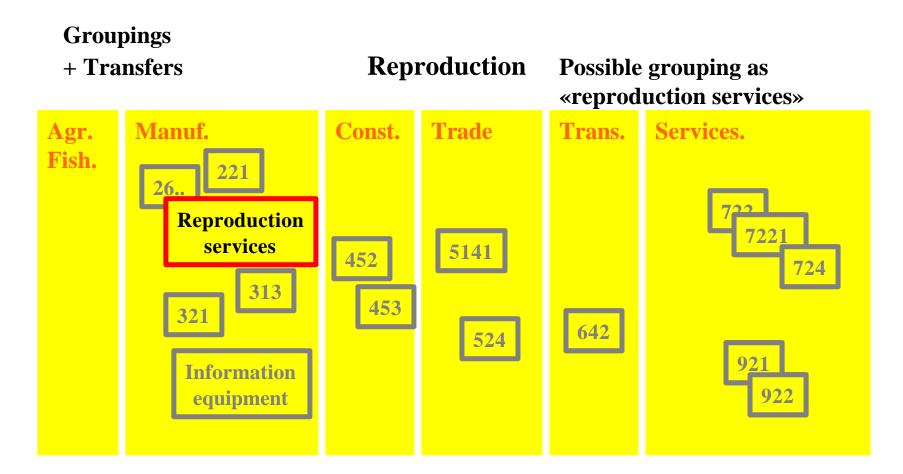


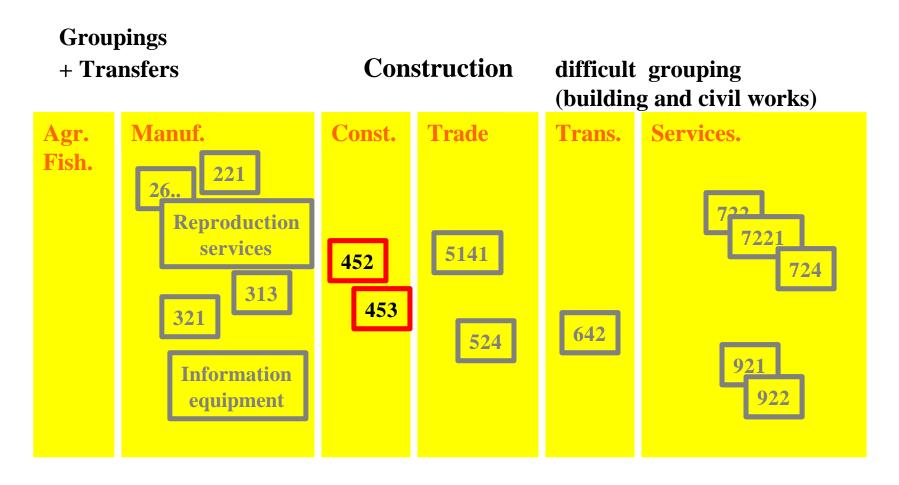
#### **Groupings**

+ Transfers Equipments Possible information equipment grouping



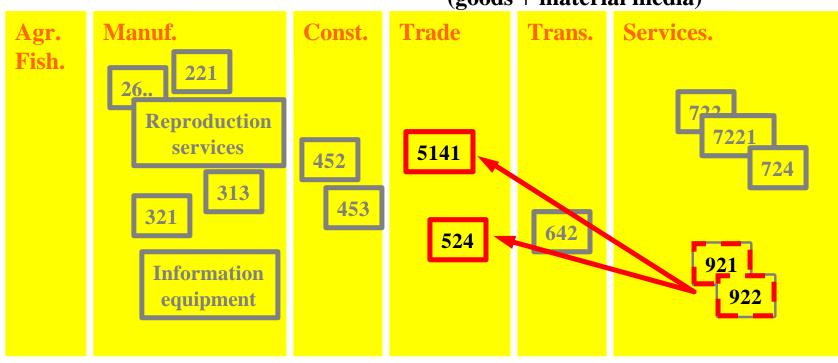






#### **Groupings**

+ Transfers Trade Possible information trade grouping (goods + material media)



#### **Groupings**

+ Transfers

**Trade Possible information trade grouping** (goods + material media)



**Groupings** + Transfers

**Telecommunications** 

No change (telecom. are not only for information products)

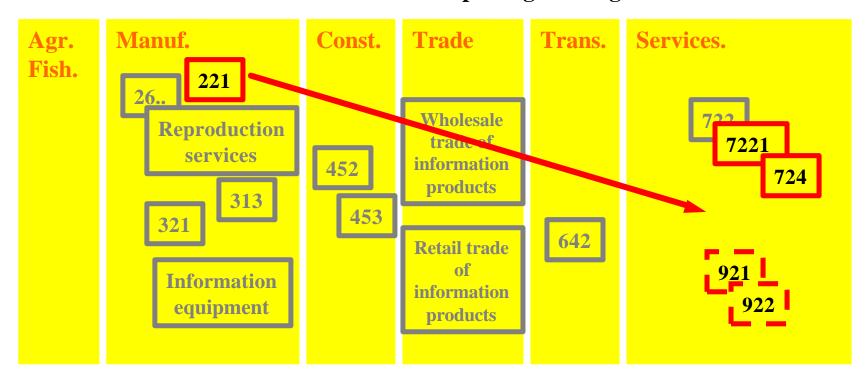


**Groupings** 

+ Transfers

**Publishing** 

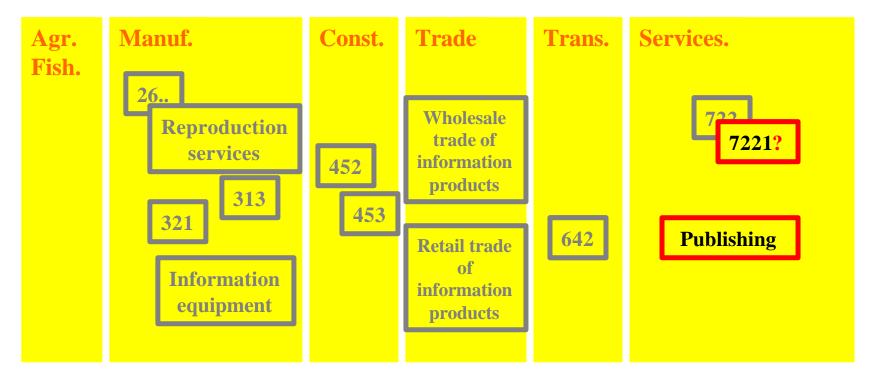
A publishing grouping is wished Pb: packaged and game softwares...?



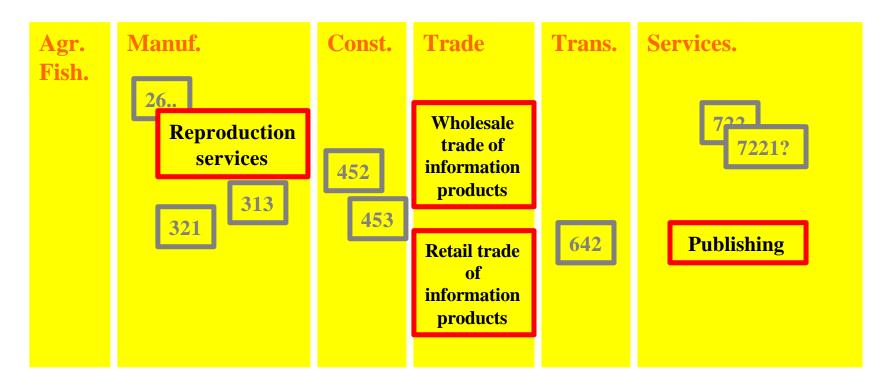
**Groupings** + Transfers

**Publishing** 

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### ... a lot!!



### ... to 2007

Thank you

Questions?