



Aras Office Connector

12.0R5

Release Notes

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Document Conventions

The following table highlights the document conventions used in the document:

Table 1: Document Conventions

Convention	Description
Bold	Emphasizes the names of menu items, dialog boxes, dialog box elements, and commands. Example: Click OK .
Code	Code examples appear in <code>courier</code> font. It may represent text you type or data you read.
<code>Yellow highlight</code>	Code highlighted in yellow draws attention to the code that is being indicated in the content.
<code>Yellow highlight with red text</code>	Red text highlighted in yellow indicates the code parameter that needs to be changed or replaced.
<i>Italics</i>	Reference to other documents.
Note:	Notes contain additional useful information.
Warning	Warnings contain important information. Pay special attention to information highlighted this way.
Successive menu choices	Successive menu choices may appear with a greater than sign (-->) between the items that you will select consecutively. Example: Navigate to File --> Save --> OK .

1 Release History

Version	Date	Comments
12.0R1	2019-06-07	Initial Release
12.0R2	2019-11-01	Patch Release
12.0R3	2020-04-17	Patch Release
12.0R4	2020-09-25	Patch Release
12.0R5	2021-04-23	Patch Release

2 Platform Support Matrix

The following software versions are supported by Aras Office Connector Version 12.0R5:

Component	Platform	Version
Aras Innovator		12.0 SP16 12.0 SP15
Operating System	MS Windows	Windows 10 Windows 8.1
Web Browsers	Edge	
	Mozilla Firefox	78 ESR 68 ESR
	Google Chrome	Chrome 90 (Minimum)
Microsoft Office		2019 365 Desktop Version 2016 2013*

Note: Version 2013 of Microsoft Visio is not supported.

3 Enhancements, Bug Fixes, and Known Issues

3.1 Version 12.0R5

3.1.1 Enhancements in Aras Office Connector 12.0R5

Ability to disable Property Mappings Synchronization Warning Dialog

Users can now disable the Property Mappings Synchronization Warning Dialog from the Aras Office Connector Preference. After disabling the dialog, users will no longer get an alert when document properties from the file in the working directory and Aras are not synchronized. A Save to Aras will automatically be executed to synchronize document properties without user interaction.

Support for Multi-Value List Properties

Aras Office Connector now supports the Multi-Value List property data type. Bi-directional property mappings can be configured for Multi-Value List properties. Also, searching on Multi-Value List property in any Aras Office Connector search dialog is now supported.

Support for Federated Properties

Aras Office Connector now supports the Federated property data type. Property mappings can be configured for Federated properties in the direction from Aras to Office only (From Office to Aras is not supported).

Extended Support for Filter List Properties

Aras Office Connector now supports the same source ItemTypes as Aras Innovator for Filter List data type, extending the current capability beyond List. Any default properties, like classification and authoring_tool, can be used as a source for Filtered List. Bi-directional property mappings between Office and Aras can now be applied for Filter Lists. Also, users can search on Filter List properties in any Office Connector search dialog where configured.

Ability to Search by Effective Date

Aras Office Connector now supports the same Effectivity Date search capabilities found in Aras Innovator. Earlier versions of Documents and Templates can now be opened for View using the standard Document search.

Extended Support for Outlook Email Property Mappings

Email addresses can now be mapped more seamlessly from Outlook to Aras when saving an email from the Aras Office Connector. These new specific properties include To, From, CC and BCC. For example, Office property \$MSO_participants(TO) will map the To email addresses to the designated Aras property. Multiple email addresses display separated by a space.

Logout Ribbon Command

The Logout command has been exposed in the Aras Office Connector ribbon within the Help menu. Users no longer need to close the Microsoft Application or navigate to the Session dialog in order to log out of Aras Office Connector.

Continued Office Connector Redesign

Grids have been restyled across the Office Connector to ensure consistency with the web client. Restyling focused on Document Item Search Grids, as well as the Properties Grid.

3.1.2 Issues Fixed in Aras Office Connector 12.0R5

Issue #	Description
F-001247, IR-077345, IR-086341, IR-087055	Introduced the option to turn off a warning about changed properties in Innovator when saving from Microsoft Office. When turned off, users can simply save the document to Aras without seeing this warning.
F-002048, IR-075691, IR-081143	Multi-Value List property mappings are now supported.
F-003715	The search dialog in Aras Office Connector now supports searching by Multi-Value List properties.
IR-092123	It is now possible to map Federated Properties from Aras to Office. Mapping Federated Properties from Office to Aras is not supported.
F-003028	Updated Filtered Lists in Aras Office Connector to work the same way as in the regular web client. Filtered Lists properties can be mapped, they can support the same ItemTypes that they support in Aras Innovator, and can filter results in Microsoft Office client.
F-001243, F-003756, IR-073047	Searching by Effectivity date now works on the client-side of Aras Office Connector. This works in both Open Document Dialog and in Properties Dialog.
F-003709, IR-083917	When saving emails from Outlook to Aras, it is now possible to include additional metadata including TO, CC, BCC, and FROM values.
F-001252, IR-077177	Introduced a new 'Logout' button in Aras Ribbon for users who wish to continue working in Microsoft Office without being connected to Aras.

Issue #	Description
F-003755, F-002936, F-002937	<p>Updated styling in Aras Office Connector to better match the user experience with Aras Innovator web client. The updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date-Picker dialog ○ Search Grid ○ Properties Grid
IR-089396	<p>When setting “Remove Local File On Close” in Aras Office Connector preferences, copies of Viewable File and Thumbnail file will also be removed from the local working directory on the client machine when the user closes the document.</p> <p>As before, this option only cleans out the local copies. It does not affect the files on the server.</p>
IR-089565	<p>If a User attempts to run the “Open from Linked Items” action when there are no linked Items present, they will see a user-friendly error message explaining the problem. Previously, the user would see a technical error message that was not understandable.</p>
IR-080666	<p>When mapping an item property to a cell in Excel spreadsheet, the users will now see the keyed_name of the item instead of its ID.</p>

3.1.3 Known Issues in Aras Office Connector 12.0R5

Issue #	Description	Workaround
I-012323	<p>Aras Office Connector can be installed in Microsoft Visio 2013 without any visible errors even though Visio 2013 is not supported.</p>	

3.2 Version 12.0R4

3.2.1 Enhancements in Aras Office Connector 12.0R4

Ability to set a Default Login URL

Users can bypass the first login window during authentication by setting a server URL as default in Preferences. A default URL can later be unset allowing the user to return to selecting the server URL during authentication, or a new server URL can be set as default in its place.

Inactive List Values

List values can be flagged as inactive by the administrator, with the result that inactive values cannot be set going forward, but will still be kept in existing places where they were previously set. All inactive values are still available for search.

Ability to turn off Virtual Saved Searches

Saved searches include "virtual saved searches" that correspond to each Document Type you have access to. These virtual saved searches are indicated by an asterisk in front of the name. Users now have the ability to omit "virtual saved searches" in Preferences and only show saved searches corresponding to their User.

Improvements to Managing Thumbnails

Disabling the generation of thumbnails has been improved by implementing a new Boolean property on the Office Document Type. Also, thumbnails can now display as images under the Thumbnail property of Document items in Aras Innovator.

Office Connector Redesign Continued

Dialog windows have been restyled across the Office Connector to ensure consistency with the web client. Restyling focused on Property Fields, Buttons, Icons, Titles, and Theme. Updates include, but are not limited to, restyling for Login, New Aras Document, Save to Aras, Links, Promote, Discussion Panel, and message dialogs.

3.2.2 Issues Fixed in Aras Office Connector 12.0R4

Issue #	Description
F-002219	To avoid entering the Aras Innovator URL each time a User logs in, it is now possible to set a default URL for Aras Office Connector to use. The default may be set and changed in client preferences.
I-021024	If a List Value in Aras Innovator is marked as 'Inactive,' Aras Office Connector will not allow the User to set that Inactive value. It is still possible to search on all List Values, including Inactive ones.
F-001244, IR-075090	Users can now toggle off Virtual Saved Searches in their client preferences. When toggled off, only searches saved for the User will be shown.

Issue #	Description
F-002234, IR-069595	<p>Thumbnails created by the Aras Office Connector will no longer be saved as related files. Instead, they will be saved under the Thumbnail property and appropriate images will show up in the Documents in the web client.</p> <p>Administrators have the option to enable or disable thumbnail generation on the Office Document Type.</p>
IR-087879	<p>Various dialogs, windows, and Visual Collaboration panel have been updated to use the standard UI style.</p>
F-002199, IR-079502, IR-082311, IR-083562, IR-084244	<p>Improvements have been made in Aras Office Connector to reduce the number of requests to the server when loading the client data, additionally improving overall load behavior. Affected areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Logging into Aras Innovator ○ Creating a new Aras Document ○ Saving As to Aras ○ Opening from a linked item ○ Viewing versions

3.2.3 Known Issues in Aras Office Connector 12.0R4

Issue #	Description	Workaround
I-012323	<p>Aras Office Connector can be installed in Microsoft Visio 2013 without any visible errors even though Visio 2013 is not supported.</p>	



3.3 Version 12.0R3

3.3.1 Enhancements in Aras Office Connector 12.0R3

Open in Office Command Available for Item Toolbars

The **Open in Office** command is now available in the item toolbar for the ItemType configured for the Office Connector. The command is only available if the action “MSO_OpenInOffice” is added. Selecting this command will open the document under the control of Aras Office Connector, similar to selecting the **Open in Office** action from the search results grid or the **More** menu.

Aras Office Connector Login Options

Aras Office Connector now supports all the same authentication options as Aras Innovator.

Ability to resize dialogs when creating a New Aras Document

The **New Aras Document**, **Save to Aras**, and **Save As to Aras** dialogs can now be resized by dragging the lower right-hand corner. Users now have the ability to lengthen the **Document Type**, **Document Template**, and **Link to Item** fields in order to see additional text that was previously hidden for longer names.

Markups are saved when Viewables are generated

If `Track Changes` is enabled when the Office Connector Viewable is generated, the Viewable will now save with the markups. If `Track Changes` is not enabled, the Viewable will generate without markups.

Support for Aras Office Connector on Aras Innovator 12.0 SP6

Aras Office Connector is now supported on Aras Innovator 12.0 SP6.

3.3.2 Issues Fixed in Aras Office Connector 12.0R3

Issue #	Description
F-001205, IR-083626	Improved login options for Aras Office Connector. It now includes the same options as standard Aras Innovator.
F-001206, IR-060372	Open in Office option is now available via a single button on any item in Aras Innovator that has Open in Office enabled. Previously, end users could only access this action via an Actions dropdown menu.
F-001241	When using Aras Office Connector from any of the MS Office interfaces, End Users now have the option to change the size of New Aras Document , Save to Aras , and Save As to Aras dialog windows. They can also change the size of the fields in these windows as needed.
F-001248, IR-077942, IR-083627	Introduced the ability to save Microsoft Word files with markups and comments. When the PDF file is generated, the all the markups are included.
IR-084917	Aras Office Connector 12.0R3 supports Aras Innovator 12.0 SP6.

3.3.3 Known Issues in Aras Office Connector 12.0R3

Issue #	Description	Workaround
I-012323	Aras Office Connector can be installed in Microsoft Visio 2013 without any visible errors even though Visio 2013 is not supported.	

3.4 Version 12.0R2

3.4.1 Enhancements in Aras Office Connector 12.0R2

Aras Office Connector now includes Microsoft Visio

The standard installation of the Aras Office Connector now includes the Microsoft Visio application. Supported versions include Microsoft Visio 2016 and 2019. All standard connector functionality is available, including mapping properties, relating items, configuring ribbon commands, and generating PDFs.

Thumbnail Generation is now Optional

Administrators can now disable the generation of thumbnails. While the thumbnail property exists on the ItemType, thumbnails will not be generated unless a file is specified for the Office Document Type for the Thumbnail File property.

Support for XLSM

The Aras Office Connector now supports XLSM, the macro-enabled Excel spreadsheet file extension.

Refresh Properties Enhanced

Aras Office Connector now has the ability to refresh newly added preferences without having to close the MS Office Application, using Refresh Settings in the ribbon.

Support for Aras Office Connector on Aras Innovator 12.0 SP2

Aras Office Connector is now supported on Aras Innovator 12.0 SP2.

3.4.2 Issues Fixed in Aras Office Connector 12.0R2

Issue #	Description
IR-063016, IR-060384	Aras Office Connector has been extended to integrate Microsoft Visio with Aras Innovator. Users working in MS Visio will have access to the Aras

Issue #	Description
	Ribbon with same integrated functionality as all the other Microsoft Office applications.
F-001245, IR-077111	Files with .xlsm extensions are now supported by Aras Office Connector. Standard OC actions can be performed on these files.
IR-046658	Resolved an intermittent client-side error in Chrome that could occur when running Open in Office action multiple times for the same item.
IR-079985	Aras Office Connector is now supported with Microsoft Office 2019
IR-079986	Administrators who are mapping Aras Properties to properties in MS Office no longer have to close the Office application in order to see their changes. Clicking the Refresh button in Aras Ribbon will reload all mapped properties along with any changes.
IR-079181	Mapping Filtered Lists from Aras Innovator to Excel Cell is now supported.
IR-075215	German translations were added to “Compare” options when selecting Versions in the Aras Ribbon. End users in German locale will now see the German labels instead of the default English ones.
I-007914	Generating thumbnails via Aras Office Connector is now optional. Administrators can define the property mapping on the Document Type if they wish to use it or leave it blank if they don't.

3.4.3 Known Issues in Aras Office Connector 12.0R2

Issue #	Description	Workaround
I-012323	Aras Office Connector can be installed in Microsoft Visio 2013 without any visible errors even though Visio 2013 is not supported.	

3.5 Version 12.0R1

3.5.1 Enhancements in Aras Office Connector 12.0R1

Support for Aras Office Connector on Aras Innovator 12.0

Aras Office Connector is now supported on Aras Innovator 12.0.

Office Connector Redesign

The Aras Office Connector and Client have been redesigned based on Aras Innovator 12.0. Ribbon commands now have modern icons and have been regrouped to enhance productivity. Property fields across the Ribbon and Dialogs have been resized to support longer strings of data. Aras Office Connector Dialogs and Aras Innovator Client forms have been restyled as well. Locking has also been replaced with the new Claim functionality.

Continued Support for Localization

Localization improvements have been made to further support French, German, and Japanese languages. Translations have been added and improved across Aras Innovator and the Office Connector. Japanese characters are now supported when logging into the Office Connector. Additionally, the Office Connector has been enhanced to use the Microsoft Office culture instead of the OS language setting.

Support for Multiple Blank Classifications

The Office Connector now supports a blank classification per ItemType. Previously, only one blank classification could exist, regardless of the ItemType defined.

Filename Validation

To prevent users from unintentionally overriding a local file when creating a new Aras document, Office Connector will prompt users for validation when it detects that a file with the same name already exists in their directory. Users can choose to override their local copy and continue creating the new Aras document, or they can cancel the operation.

Ribbon Tree

Enhancements have been made to the tab formerly named Ribbon Commands. Ribbon Tree now provides the ability to manage a group of commands instead of managing each command individually. All commands within a group can be made visible or invisible by selecting the group classification.

Option to Convert to PDF/A

To meet the demand for expanding business requirements, Aras Office Connector now offers the option to create viewable files in PDF/A format rather than just plain PDF. This option can be selected by administrators in Aras Office Connector settings.

3.5.2 Issues Fixed in Aras Office Connector 12.0R1

Issue #	Description
062416	The Office Connector Ribbon user interface has been redesigned to match the style of Aras Innovator 12.0. These updates include changes to interface layout to make interaction more intuitive for end users.
072789, 077170	German and French translations of Office Connector client have been cleaned up. Both locales are now automatically installed, so any user who is using Aras Office Connector in either French or German locales will see the labels in appropriate languages.

Issue #	Description
052289	Aras Office Connector will now handle logins if the login name contains Japanese characters.
074615, 075953	It is now possible to map multiple ItemTypes with blank classifications to use Aras Office Connector. Previously, Office Connector could only handle a mapping of a single ItemType with a blank classification.
075523	To prevent users from unintentionally overriding a local file when creating a new Aras document, Office Connector will prompt users for validation when it detects that a file with the same name already exists in their directory. Users can choose to override their local copy and continue creating the new Aras document, or they can cancel the operation.
078666	Aras Office Connector is now supported on Aras Innovator 12.0.
058421	When administrators are setting up visibility settings for Aras Ribbon, they can now uncheck a parent group, which will automatically hide all related commands. It is still possible to show/hide commands in the Ribbon individually as well.
000779	Administrators can now select PDF/A format in Aras Office Connector preferences. This selection offers an alternative to standard PDF creation during the Save and Close operation.

3.5.3 Known Issues in Aras Office Connector 12.0R1

Issue #	Description	Workaround
046658	Client-side error may occur in Microsoft Office if the "Open in Office" action is run multiple times on the same item in Chrome.	