

Notifications

An important feature of Visual Collaboration is the ability to notify users when they have new messages available to read. Notification is handled in two ways, directly within the Aras Innovator client, and through email.

Set up of Conversion Server and Agent Service

Notification capability requires the installation of the Aras Agent Service and the Conversion Server. See the *Conversion Server Setup Guide* and *Installation Guide* (for Agent Service) for details.

Once the Agent Service has been installed, you must configure the `conversion.config` file located within the `AgentService` folder. The following additions must be made to the file:

```
<ProcessingCycles>
<cycle DB="database" User="user" Interval="20000" MaxBatch="5" />
<cycle DB="database" User="user" Interval="20000" MaxBatch="1" ConversionRuleName="SSVC.Email.Digest.Noti
<cycle DB="database" User="user" Interval="5000" MaxBatch="50" ConversionRuleName="SSVC.Notification.Rule
</ProcessingCycles>
```

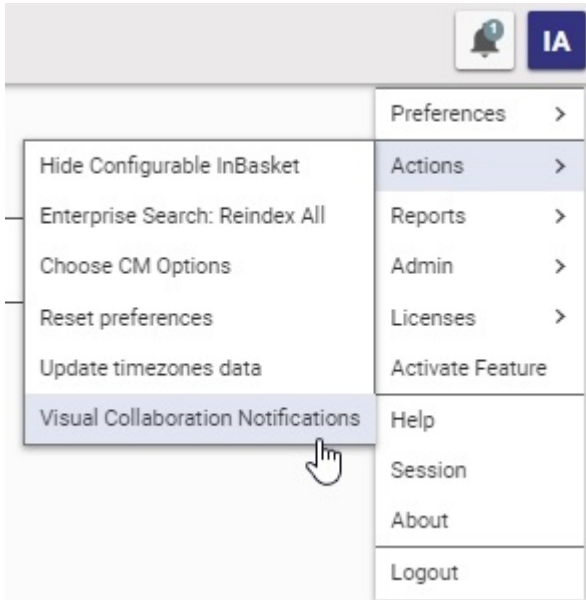
Substitute the appropriate values for your environment for the items in blue.

Once these edits have been made, restart the Agent Service.

Enabling Notifications

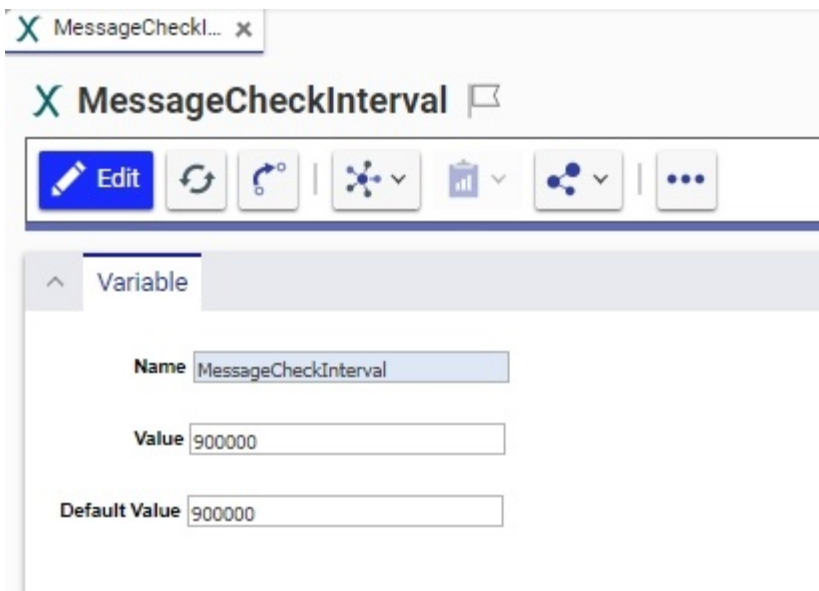
There is a “master switch” available only to Administrators, which turns on (or off) the overall Visual Collaboration Notification mechanism. This is in the **Actions** menu as shown in this screenshot.





Setting Polling Interval

The administrator can control the polling interval for notifications. This is set by a Variable named **MessageCheckInterval**. The value is set in milliseconds, with the default of 900000 (15 minutes).

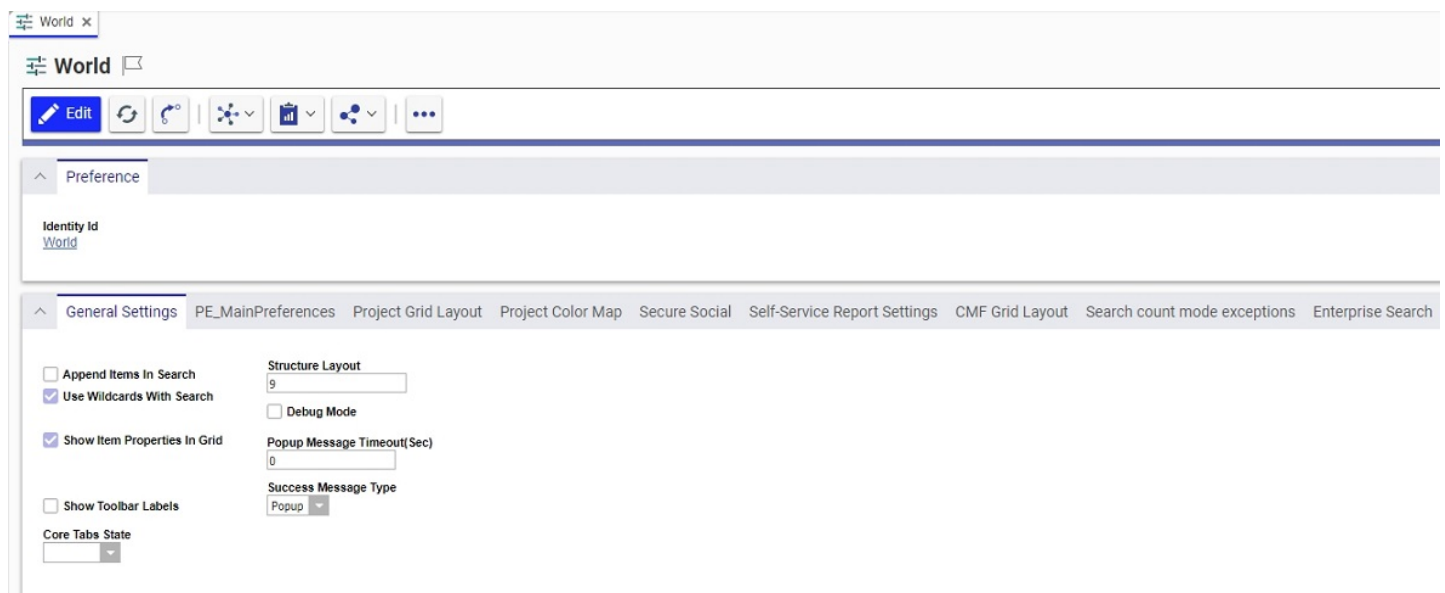


Notification Preferences



Preference settings for notifications are contained within the Secure Social tab of the Preferences ItemType. Options include:

- Notification within the web client
- Notification by email on every message
- Notification by email as a digest



By setting these values for the World identity, the administrator can set the default values for all users. Users do not access the Preferences ItemType directly.

Notifications in the Aras Web Client

When notifications are enabled and the user has selected the option to see notifications in the web client, the notifications will appear in the **Notifications** button of the Aras Innovator client.



If the user clicks on the pop-up notification, they will be redirected to their My Discussions screen to see the new messages.

Configuration of Email Notifications



Use of email notifications requires the general setup of email capability within Aras Innovator. If you have any questions about setting up an email server with Aras Innovator, please contact Aras Support at support@aras.com.

Configuration of email notifications specifically for Visual Collaboration is done in the **Secure Social** tab of the **Preferences** ItemType for the **World** Identity.

The screenshot shows the 'World' identity preferences window. The 'Secure Social' tab is selected, displaying various settings. On the left, there are fields for 'Default bookmark', 'Default Number Of Replies' (set to 3), 'Default Number Of Flagged-By Users' (set to 2), and 'Max Lines In Messages Before "More"' (set to 3). In the center, there are checkboxes for 'Use Standard Toolbar For Viewers', 'Use Legacy 3D View Files', and a 'Message Notification' section with checked options for 'Within the web client', 'Email on every message', and 'Email digest'. Below this is a 'Prefix Text For Highlight Text Markup' field with the value 'Change to:'. On the right, the 'Email Notifications' section contains fields for 'Subject line for single notifications' ('[Aras] Visual Collaboration Notification – new message'), 'Description text for single notifications' ('The following new message has posted in your discussions:'), 'Subject line for digest notifications' ('[Aras] Visual Collaboration Notification – new messages'), 'Description text for digest notifications' ('The following new messages have posted in your discussions:'), and 'Time interval for digest notifications (hours)' (24).

Settings include:

- **Subject line for single notifications**

The text to display in the subject line for emails sent on a per-message basis

- **Description text for single notifications**

The text to display in the email message body for emails sent on a per-message basis



- **Subject line for digest notifications**

The text to display in the subject line for digest emails

- **Description text for digest notifications**

The text to display in the email message body for digest emails

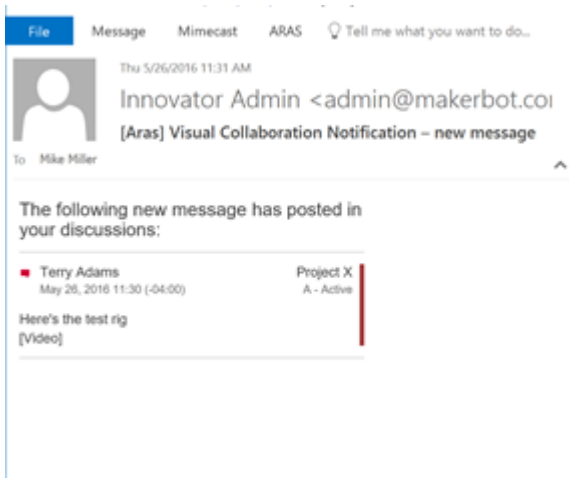
- **Time interval for digest notifications (hours)**

The time interval (in hours) at which digest emails will be sent. Note that this interval must be the same for all users that have chosen to receive digest emails.

Result of Email Notifications

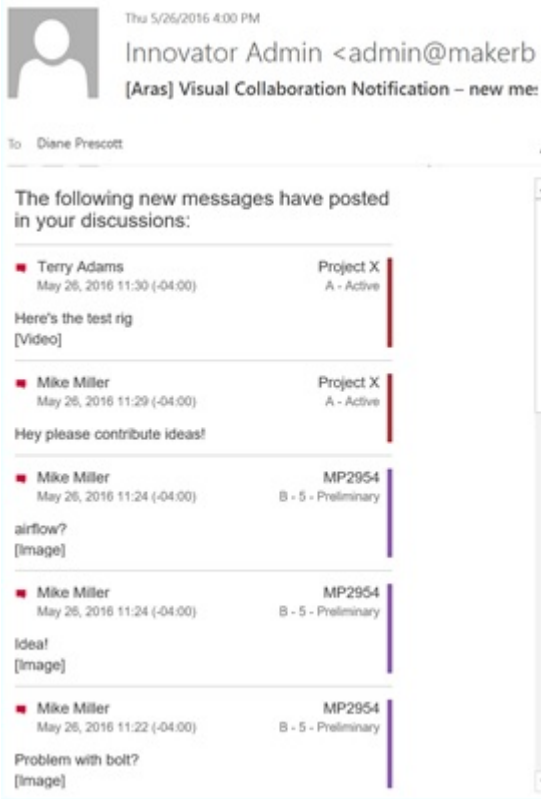
If users have enabled one or both types of email notification, and have an email address defined for them, they will receive emails that look as follows:

- Single emails



- Digest emails





Some details have been removed in the email content, compared to the corresponding live content in the web client, such as icons and thumbnails.