



NavBar Redesign FAQs

As part of our new UX/UI initiative, Aries Systems will be releasing a redesigned Navigation Bar (“NavBar”) within Editorial Manager® (EM) and ProduXion Manager® (PM). For more information on Aries’ initiative, refer to our UX/UI Redesign Initiative FAQs. Please consult your Aries Account Coordinator (AC) if you have additional questions.

Q: What can customers expect to change with the new design for the NavBar?

A: The updated NavBar for Editorial Manager and ProduXion Manager includes both user interface (UI) and user experience (UX) updates. The new navigation bar design features a more modern look, with updated colors, typefaces, and spacing, which will be consistent across all EM/PM sites. All operations from the original navigation bar will be maintained in the new design, but structured in a more functional layout for a more intuitive, user-friendly navigation experience. All improvements are designed to enhance the usability and accessibility of the system’s navigation.

Q: Why did Aries choose the NavBar as the first area of the system to update?

A: Extensive analysis of the system was conducted to create and validate the UX/UI project roadmap. Aries selected the NavBar as the first area to be updated as it is a static element that is featured across all pages and used by all roles. The NavBar is the heart of EM and PM, and it is important for Aries to prioritize and address high-traffic, high-impact areas of the system. The redesigned NavBar is the first in a series of system enhancements and updates to come!

Q: When will the redesigned NavBar be released?

A: On December 13, 2021, the updated NavBar will be released in an “off” state to all EM/PM sites by default. As a courtesy, we will grant customers the option to activate the new NavBar for their EM/PM sites over a ten-week activation period. Effective February 23, 2022, the new NavBar will be automatically enabled for all remaining EM/PM sites. Thereafter the original NavBar will no longer be available.

Q: How can customers implement the new NavBar during the optional activation period?

A: Customers can implement the new NavBar for their EM/PM sites at any point during the ten week activation period. To do so, customers must contact their Aries Account Coordinator, who will enable the NavBar on their behalf. There is no front-end configuration setting that will allow customers (or System Administrators) to switch on the new NavBar themselves.

Q: Can customers make brand customizations to the new NavBar?

A: The new NavBar will not allow for any design customizations. Customers can no longer designate the color of the banner or include the journal's logo within the banner. Instead, the journal's title will be prominently displayed within the banner as shown below. The new NavBar's color palette, typefaces, and spacing will be used for forthcoming interface designs, setting the stage for the future look of EM and PM and allowing for a consistent look and feel throughout the system. These design elements have been carefully selected by Aries and will allow us to better adhere to rigorous accessibility and design standards as the EM/PM UX/UI initiative progresses.

Publications will still be allowed to customize any resources linked from the NavBar (e.g. Instructions for Authors, Journal Overview) and add journal-specific branding to the Home page, if desired.



Q: What support resources will be made available for the redesigned NavBar, and where can users find them?

A: Aries will provide all the necessary resources to prepare and support our customers for the interface transition, including video tutorials, Release Notes documentation, training webinars, FAQ sheets, etc. These materials will be made available on the [Resources page](#) on the Aries website.

Q: Will customers be charged for the updated NavBar?

A: No, customers will not be charged for the redesigned NavBar, or for any upcoming interface updates introduced to their EM/PM sites as part of the Aries UX/UI initiative.

Q: Can publishers opt out of the NavBar UX/UI update?

A: No, EM/PM customers cannot opt-out of the NavBar update or any future UX/UI improvements to the system. All interface enhancements will automatically be applied to all EM/PM sites upon release, unless otherwise specified. Customers will not be able to “toggle” between old and new interfaces.

Q: At first glance, the new NavBar appears to have fewer links. Were some navigation elements removed?

A: No functions have been removed. All of the old links and functions of the original NavBar have been maintained and carried over into the new NavBar design, though some items have been relocated! To create a clean look and intuitive navigation experience, some operations have been purposefully reorganized into new drop-down menus. New menu categories featured in the updated NavBar include the About, Help, Shortcuts, and the User drop-down.

Q: Do all users (Authors, Editors, and Reviewers) see the same NavBar design?

A: Although the new NavBar design will apply to all sites, some functions may be unavailable to certain roles, depending on publisher configurations and user permissions. For example, the Author and Reviewer default view does not include the new Shortcuts drop-down menu or the Simple Submission Search, as those functions are not available to those roles. Similarly, System Administrator Functions, Enterprise View, Go to Publication, and other items will only appear in the NavBar if applicable to that journal or available to that user role.

Q: Where can users find the old “Go to” search function from the original NavBar?

A: As a replacement for the older “Go to” search menu, the new Shortcuts drop-down menu contains the extensive Search function for submissions, proposals, and people.

Q: How are announcements shown in the new NavBar?

A: Important announcements from Aries Systems, such as scheduled maintenance notices, will now be displayed via a new warning indicator in the NavBar, as shown below. When the alert is clicked, a pop-up box will display the message, with a convenient scrolling feature to view messages longer than the window view.



Q: What will the new NavBar look like for ProduXion Manager® (PM) sites?

A: The NavBar for PM-only sites will look and function identically to the NavBar for EM sites, with the exception of the PM logo displayed in the banner, as shown in the image below.

