Primo VE Release:
May 2025 Alliance Release Notes

The Ex Libris May 2025 Primo VE release notes are now available. Below are highlights of relevant features and updates.

The May 2025 Primo VE release will go into production as of May 4, 2025. Note that any testing that is done before the release is in production for items that are not turned on by default needs to happen in one of the premium sandboxes. If you need access to a premium sandbox please fill out the Sandbox form.

If you run into any issues or have feedback about the release please submit it to the Primo Release Testing Standing Group's May 2025 Primo VE Release Testing Form. Also, fill out the form to tell us what you are going to use from the release.

If you would like to view the official Ex Libris video and slideshow about the Primo VE May 2025 release, please see:

- What's New with Primo/Primo VE May 2025 – YouTube, PDF
- Primo VE 2025 Roadmap

Table of Contents

Table of Contents
Email settings for sending links (April Release)
Support AZ List in Database and Journal Searches
    Support for Dublin Core Application Profiles (DCAP) in Discovery
    Research Assistant Improvements
NDE Updates

Email settings for sending links (April Release)

ExLibris released this feature in the April 2025 update. This feature allows institutions to configure Primo VE to send email links through a user's local email client rather than through an ExLibris server.

For configuration details, please refer to the official ExLibris April 2025 release notes, under "Additional Enhancements."

This configuration has the advantage of sending links via email with a sender's address that is more recognizable to the recipient than an ExLibris return address. However, the downside is that users may not have a local email client configured, or the sendto feature in Primo VE does not launch the email client properly, or the user is on a public computer where an email client configuration would not exist.

ENABLED BY DEFAULT? No

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend that you do **NOT** utilize the feature at this time, due to the limitations inherent in the current design.

Support AZ List in Database and Journal Searches

ExLibris has (finally) brought the A to Z list functionality from the Primo PBO to Primo VE. This feature allows institutions to enable A to Z list functionality for both database and journal searches.

One possible limitation of the feature will be that, for journals, large numbers of titles will appear for many starting letters, making the results cumbersome to navigate. This drawback will be less impactful for databases, as the total number of databases will be smaller than that of journals.

For configuration details, please refer to the official ExLibris May 2025 release notes and Configuring the AZ List for Database and Journal Searches.

Note: In the PRTSG's tests, records appeared out of order immediately after enabling this feature, but they were properly sorted the following day. Libraries might need to wait overnight for unadvertised indexing jobs to complete.

ENABLED BY DEFAULT? No

RECOMMENDATION: Based on our testing, this feature works as expected, and can be enabled by those institutions wishing to use it.

Support for Dublin Core Application Profiles (DCAP) in Discovery

With the May release, you can now index and display local Dublin Core terms in Primo VE.

The Define a Local Field page now enables you to map additional information (such as notes) from the source records to a maximum of 100 local fields for MARC records, a maximum of 50 local fields for Dublin Core records, and a maximum of 50 fields for DCAP (Dublin Core Application Profiles 1/2), where these fields can then be used to extend search queries, filter search results with facets, and display additional information in the record's brief and full displays.

For additional information, see Managing Display and Local Fields.

ENABLED BY DEFAULT? No

RECOMMENDATION: The PRTSG team has not tested this feature. If you have a need for local Dublin Core fields, we recommend you test in one of the Alliance Sandboxes prior to implementing in your production environment.

Option to disable saving of user history in the Research Assistant

With the May 2025 release of Primo VE, the Research Assistant (RA) can be configured to prevent the saving of user query histories across sessions. When RA user history is disabled, users will still be able to see their queries for the current session. But once the user logs off, that recent history is purged.

The RA can be configured to always suppress saving of query history of all users. Or, the RA can be configured to allow users to individually opt out of saving their query history within their My Account personal settings.

For configuration details, please refer to the official ExLibris May 2025 release notes.

Note: This functionality will **NOT** be fully supported until the CDI release on **May 7**.

ENABLED BY DEFAULT: No

RECOMMENDATION: If you already have the RA enabled in your environment, and focus on protecting user privacy, we recommend you enable this feature.

Research Assistant Accessibility Improvements

A number of accessibility improvements have been made to the Research Assistant, as described in the official ExLibris May 2025 release notes.

ENABLED BY DEFAULT: Yes

RECOMMENDATION: If you have already enabled the Research Assistant in your environment, these accessibility improvements will automatically be applied.

NDE Updates

As noted in an email from Tamara in sys-discussion, Ex Libris has offered an NDE early access to consortia, under which participating consortia members commit to going live on NDE in Summer 2026. The program provides for NDE access for a central consortial instance, and a limited number of individual institutions in each consortium. Six Alliance institutions have expressed interest in participating.

We have submitted our request for early NDE access for these institutions to ExLibris, and will share additional information as we learn more.

May 2025 Ex Libris Webinars

The following ExLibris Webinars related to Primo take place in May.

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Linked Data Enrichment
Presented by Yoel Kortick and Adina Marciano
APAC, 5:00 AM GMT | Register
Americas and EMEA, 3:00 PM GMT | Register

Tuesday, May 13, 2025
Primo VE NDE (Next Discovery Experience)
Presented by Yoel Kortick and Nili Natan
Americas and EMEA, 3:00 PM GMT | Register
APAC, 6:00 AM GMT | Register