
Newsfeed

Introduction

The Newsfeed product integration lets you add one or more feeds, either as RSS feeds or API endpoints, to a Newsfeed page. Users can access this page from a tile on the homepage. The main page of the Newsfeed UI displays the headlines of the items, which it receives from the linked feeds. Users can select these items to view their full content in a Details page. This feature can be used, for example, to incorporate headlines from two feeds, one an RSS feed of breaking stories from a general news agency, and the other an internal news feed from your organization, supplied via an API endpoint and introducing new developments on campus.

Data Sources

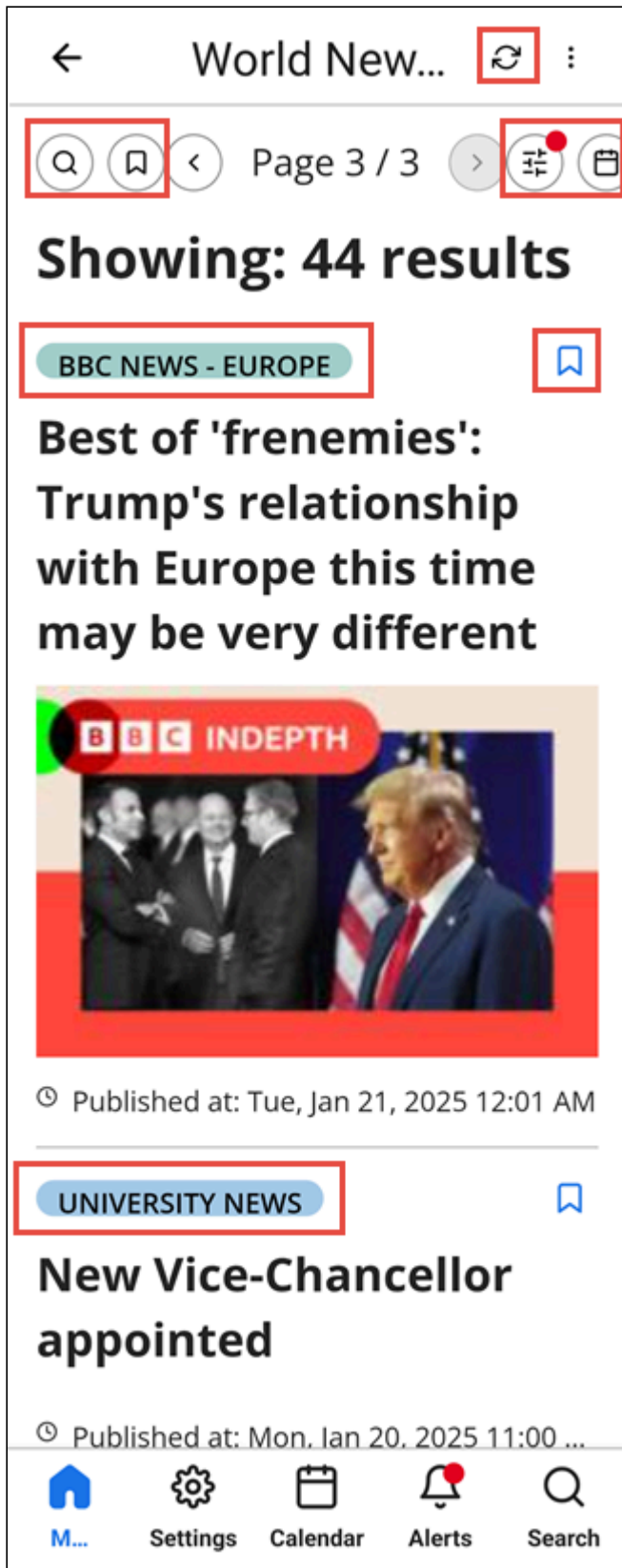
Currently, the Newsfeed product integration supports two different data sources for the newsfeeds displayed:

- - Importing newsfeeds from one or more RSS feeds (see [Importing Newsfeeds from an RSS Feed](#), below).
 - Importing newsfeeds from one or more RESTful API endpoints (see [Importing Newsfeeds from a JSON API](#), below).

User Experience

End-users open the main page of the Newsfeed from a **Newsfeed** tile in the homepage. Initially, the latest items from all of the feeds included in the Newsfeed are displayed, divided into pages, as necessary, depending on how many items there are and on the number of items per page defined in the Newsfeed's configuration (under **General > Items Per Page**). Users can select individual items in the main page to open their full contents.

Above each item in the main page, the title of its feed appears. When a Newsfeed contains multiple feeds, the feed titles are color-coded to help users differentiate between them.



Newsfeed Main Page with Items from Two Feeds

Newsfeeds are automatically refreshed every five minutes. Users can also refresh them manually at any time – on mobile devices, by selecting **Refresh** (



), and in the Web app, by refreshing the page.

In the main page, users can also search for items, mark items as favorites, show only items that have already been marked as favorites, filter the main page by choosing which feeds to include, and choose a different date to view. These options are described below.

Searching for Items

Users can search for strings of text in the titles of the items currently included in the Newsfeed. The search includes the title of the feed and the title and author of the item, but not the publication information. As the search string is entered, the list of items in the main page is automatically filtered to only include those items that contain the string.

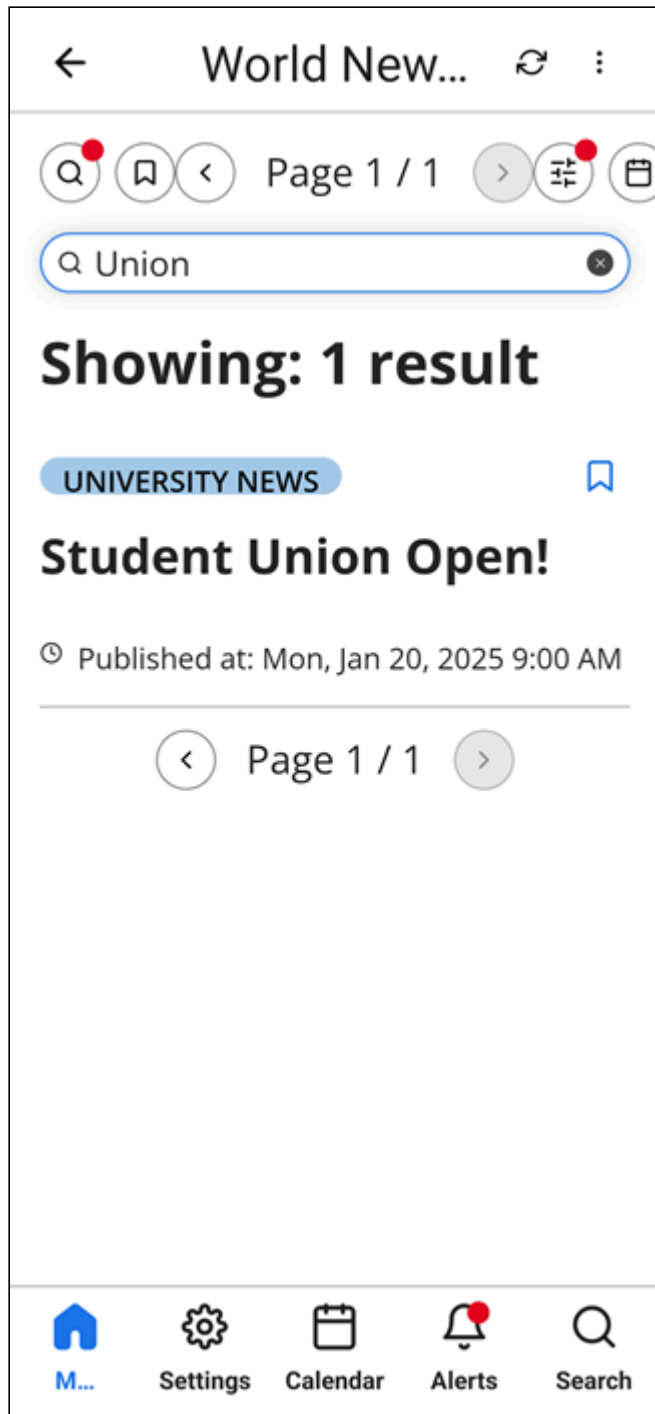
To search for text in the current list of items in the Newsfeed:

1. At the top of the list of items, select **Search** (



). The **Search** field opens above the list of items.

2. Enter the search string to search for. The search is implemented as you type.



Search Implemented

To clear the search filter, select the



. To hide the **Search** field, select **Search** (



).

Working with Favorites

Users can mark individual feed items as favorites. When an item is marked as a favorite, it is saved in the system, and remains available even when it is no longer in the current feed. Users can find it later on by turning on the **Favorites** filter.

To mark an item as a favorite:

- Above the item's title, select the **Favorite** icon (



). The icon is selected (



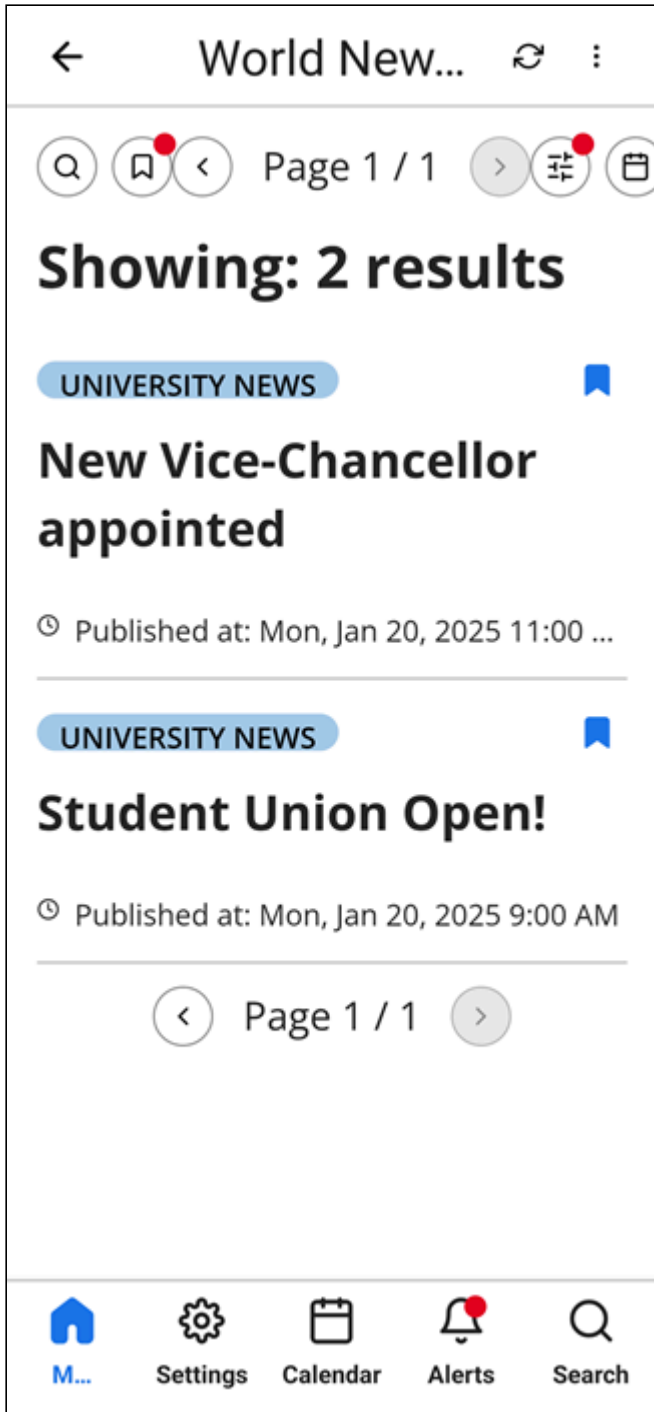
).

To display items that are marked as favorites:

- At the top of the list of items, select **Favorites** (



). Only items marked as favorites are displayed.



Filtering by Feed

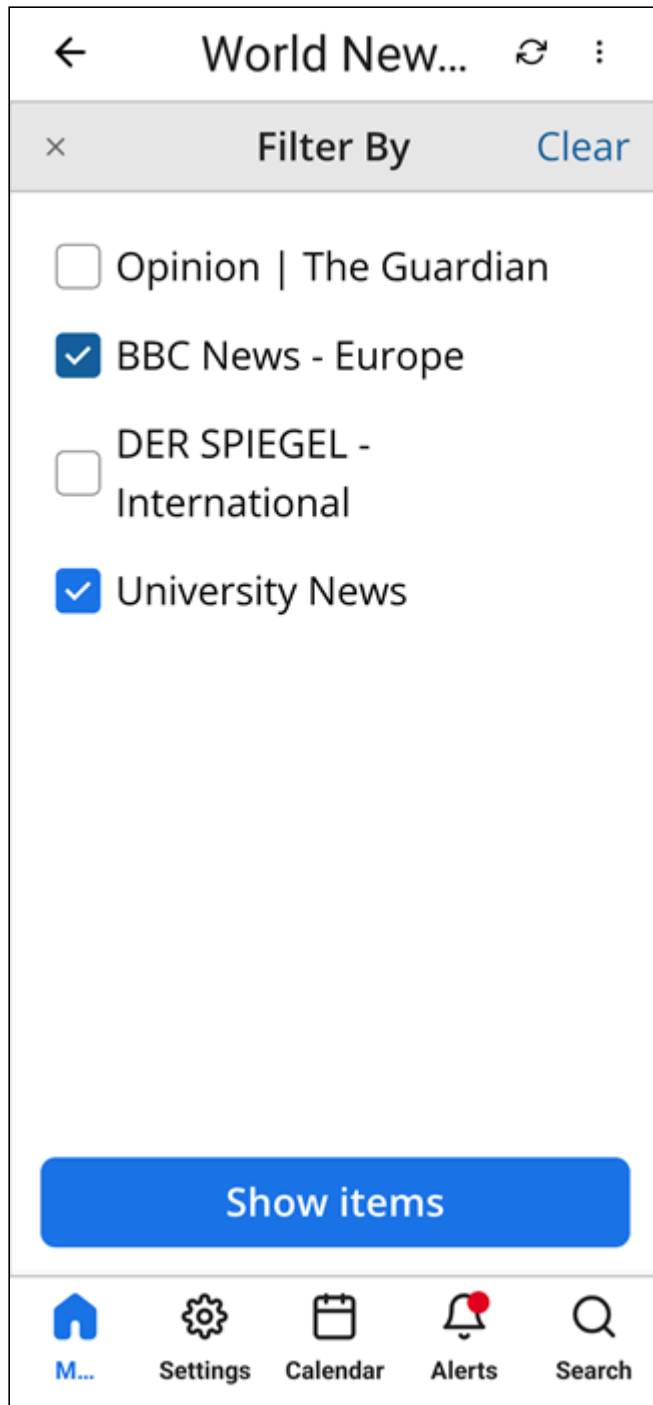
If multiple feeds are incorporated into the Newsfeed, end-users can filter the display in the main page by selecting which feeds to include.

To filter the main Newsfeed page in mobile apps:

1. Select



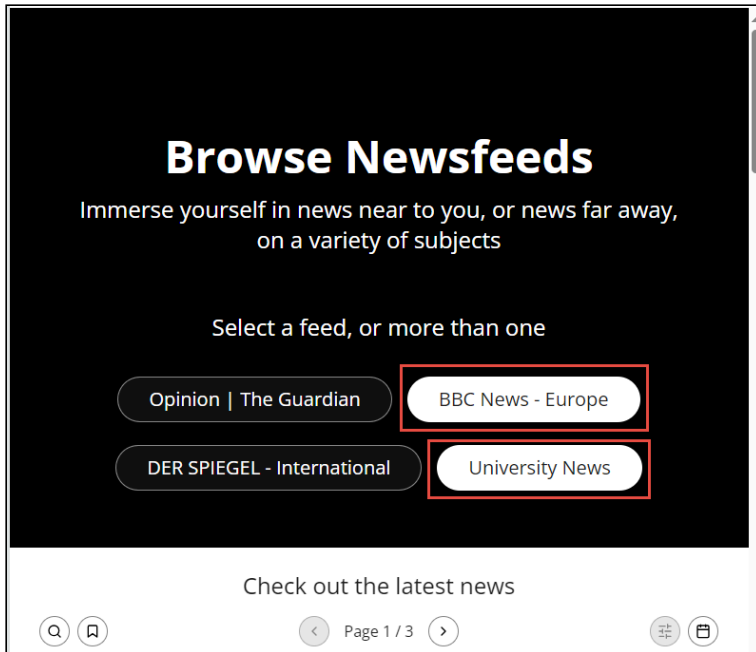
. The Filter By page opens.



2. Select the checkboxes of the feeds to include in the display.
3. Select **Show items**. The Filter By page closes and the main page is displayed with only items from the selected feeds included in it.

To filter the main Newsfeed page in the Web app:

- At the top of the page, select the feeds to display. (If no feeds are selected, all are displayed.)



Choosing a Different Date

Users can choose to see feed items from a previous date or range of dates.

To choose alternative dates to include in the feeds:

1. Select



. A date-picker calendar opens.

2. Select a single date to view items from that date. Select two dates to view items from the range of dates from the first selected through the second date. Note that if you select a third date, the first two date selections are cleared.
3. Select **Show items**. If items from the selected date(s) are available, they are displayed in the main page.

To clear an active date selection:

1. Select



to open the date-picker calendar.

2. Select **Clear**.
3. Select **Show items**. The main page opens with the current newsfeed items displayed.

Authentication

No authentication is required by default. If a specific feed requires authentication, the feed can be configured to provide the necessary credentials when the PI sends its requests to the feed server.

Offline Support

There is no caching of data on the client, except for any local bookmarks the end-user may have saved on their device.

Technical Overview

The Newsfeed product integration can be configured to receive feed input from RSS and JSON feeds. When the Newsfeed page is open in the end-user app, the PI sends requests for feeds to the feed servers it is configured to work with. The servers must respond by sending feed information in the format the PI is configured to handle.

The most basic requirement is that every feed must provide values for the following mandatory fields:

- **title** – Item title
- **pubDate** – Item publication date

If a feed will contain additional fields, and you want them to be displayed to the end-user, you can configure the feed settings to bring this about. A number of optional fields exist in the feeds' configuration settings for this purpose, and additional fields can be added to the settings if needed. This enables you to configure Newsfeeds to receive and display a broad range of text, links, and images. Some of these components are displayed in the main feed page, while others are placed in the Details pages of the feed items.

In addition, every feed must have the **Publication Date Format** field of the configuration (see [Fields](#), below) defined as required by the feed server. It is often necessary to modify the default setting of this field.

For details about configuring feed settings, see [Configuration](#), below.

Importing Newsfeeds from an RSS Feed

In order to be handled by the Newsfeed PI, an RSS feed need only meet the general requirements described. No additional requirements specific to RSS feeds exist.

Note

For most RSS feeds, the value of the **Publication Date Format** field of the configuration (see [Fields](#), below) must be adjusted, as the default setting will not work correctly. We recommend the following format: **E, d MMM yyyy HH:mm:ss z**.

The following is an example of a valid RSS feed that could be received from a feed server:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<rss version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Example RSS Feed</title>
    <link>https://www.example.com</link>
    <description>This is an example RSS feed.</description>
    <item>
      <title>Sample Article</title>
      <link>https://www.example.com/sample-article</link>
      <description>This is a sample article.</description>
```

```
    <pubDate>Wed, 04 Sep 2023 12:00:00 GMT</pubDate>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

Importing Newsfeeds from a JSON API

In addition to the general requirements described above, JSON APIs must also meet the following conditions:

- Return the feed title in a **srcTitle** field. (This is not required for RSS feeds, because the RSS XML always includes it in any case – under `channel > title`.)
- Return all news items in an **array**. (This matches the RSS XML feed structure.) The API structure does not support responses that do not return an array of results.

The following is an example of a valid JSON API response:

```
[
  {
    "title": "Sample Item #1",
    "description": "This is a nice to have.",
    "pubDate": "2025-01-20T09:00:00.000+00:00",
    "link": "https://www.google.co.uk",
    "srcTitle": "Sample Feed"
  },
  {
    "title": "Sample Item #2",
    "description": "This is another nice to have.",
    "pubDate": "2025-01-20T11:00:00.000+00:00",
    "link": "https://www.google.co.uk",
    "srcTitle": "Sample Feed"
  },
  {
    "title": "Sample Item #3",
    "description": "This is wonderful to have.",
    "pubDate": "2025-01-22T09:00:00.000+00:00",
    "link": "https://www.google.co.uk",
    "encoded": "This is just an additional field",
    "srcTitle": "Sample Feed"
  }
]
```

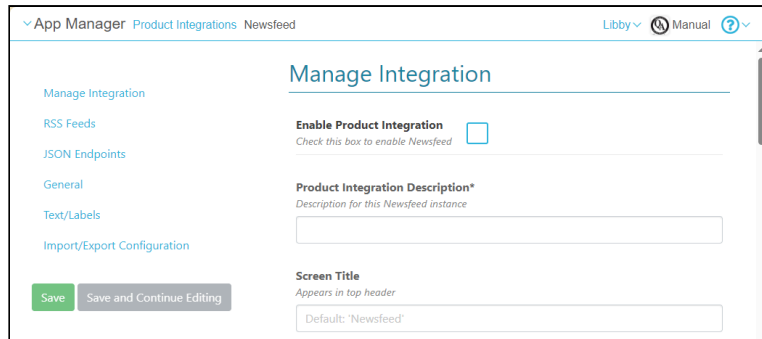
Configuration

This section explains how to create a Newsfeed product integration and configure it.

To configure a Newsfeed product integration:

1. In the App Manager, select **Product Integrations**. The Product Integration Instances page opens.

2. Select **Add Product Integration Instance**. A **Product Integration Type** list opens.
3. Select **Newsfeed**. The Manage Integration page opens.



4. Configure the settings as explained under [Fields](#), below.
5. To save the settings you have configured, select **Save** or **Save and Continue Editing**.

Fields

The following table describes the configuration options available for the Newsfeed product integration. Fields that are marked as *Required* ("Yes" in the **Required** column) must be configured by the admin in the settings (even if they have a default setting, as the **URL to retrieve the information** field does – the default value is just an example).

Many fields that are not required ("No" in the **Required** column) are active by default and have default values. This means that if a feed item contains values for these fields, they are displayed in the app. For example, by default the optional field **Description** is active (the **Display Description** checkbox is selected), and the **Description** field has the value `description`. If a feed item contains a value for a `description` field, that value is displayed for the item in the app. If you do not want this field to be displayed, you must change the default setting. That is, in our example, you must clear the **Display Description** checkbox.

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
Manage Integration					
Enable Product Integration	Select to enable this instance of the product integration on end-users' apps.	No	Checkbox	Unchecked	
Product Integration Description	A description of this instance of the product integration for internal use.	Yes	String		Newsfeed
Screen Title	The title that appears in the header of this instance in end-users' apps.	No	String		Newsfeed
RSS Feeds / JSON Endpoints					
Test RSS Feed and JSON Endpoint Connections	Once you have configured one or more RSS feeds and JSON API endpoints, and saved the settings, select this option to test the connections you configured. A window opens and displays the test results – whether the connection attempts were successful, and what responses were received. See also, Adding a Product Integration .				

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
List Of Feeds	This section contains the configuration settings for the RSS feeds from which to retrieve news items.	No	List		
List Of Endpoints	This section contains the configuration settings for the JSON endpoints from which to retrieve news items.	No	List		
RSS Feed Configuration / JSON Endpoint Configuration					
API Configuration					
URL to retrieve the information	<p>The URL to connect to in order to retrieve the feed items. The base URL should include path parameters, if any are required. If any of these parameters are programmable, they should also be defined under URL Path Parameters.</p> <p>Note that the default value of this field must be changed to the correct URL for the feed.</p>	Yes	URI	https://myDomain.com	
URL Query Parameters	A list of additional query parameters required by the feed. Select Add Query Parameter to add a parameter to the list, and then fill in the fields as specified below.	No	List		
Parameter Name	Enter the query parameter name as specified in the base URL. For example, if the URL is <code>https://someHostName/serviceName?username=1234</code> , the parameter name is username .	No	String		username
Parameter Type	<p>The Query Parameter type: Username, Token Property, or Constant.</p> <p>Select Username to use the username attribute associated with the end-user.</p> <p>If you select Token Property or Constant, an additional field is added (see below), in which you can enter the name of the token property or the value of the constant.</p>	No	Object		Username
Token Property Name	For Parameter Type Token Property , enter the name of the property to retrieve from the token – e.g., USERNAME, MAIL, or another name that is defined in the integration profile.	No	String		USERNAME
Constant Value	For Parameter Type Constant , enter the value to use.	No	String		
URL Path Parameters	A list of the programmable path parameters from the path parameters that were included in the URL specified under URL to retrieve the information . Select Add Path Parameter to add a parameter to the list, and then fill in the fields as specified below.	No	List		

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
Parameter Name	Enter the path parameter name as specified in the base URL (under URL to retrieve the information). For example, if the URL is https://someHostName/serviceName/username , the parameter name (to replace with the actual value) is username.	No	String		username
Parameter Type	The Path Parameter type: Username, Token Property, or Constant . Select Username to use the username attribute associated with the end-user. If you select Token Property or Constant , an additional field is added (see below), in which you can enter the name of the token property or the value of the constant.	No	Object		Username
Token Property Name	For Parameter Type Token Property , enter the name of the property to retrieve from the token – e.g., USERNAME, MAIL, or another name that is defined in the integration profile.	No	String		USERNAME
Constant Value	For Parameter Type Constant , enter the value to use.	No	String		
General Headers	Any additional headers required by the feed. Select Add Header Item to add a header. The Header Key and Header Value fields are added to the settings.	No	Object		
Header Key	The key of the header item.	No	String		
Header Value	The value of the header item.	No	String		
API Authentication					
Authentication Type	Defines the authentication required for this feed, if any. When you select an option, the fields required to configure it are added. In addition, for each field, select Cancel editing to prevent the end-user from editing the credentials manually. Select one of the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Auth – No authentication needed Basic – Basic authentication: username and password for Base64 basic authentication. Bearer Token – Use a bearer token API Key – API key and value; can be added to a Header, to the URL (Query Param), or both. OAuth Using Client Credentials – Select this if 	No	Dropdown list		No Auth

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
	you are using a preliminary token call to get the access token.				
Fields					
Override Feed Label	Select this option if you want to display a different feed title in the app rather than the one returned by the RSS feed. The Text - "Custom Field Label" field is added to the page.	No	Checkbox		
Text - "Custom Feed Label"	Enter the feed title to use instead of the one returned by the RSS feed.	No	String		
Mandatory Fields					
Title	The name of the field in the feed code containing the title of the news item.	No	String	title	
Publication Date	The name of the field in the feed code containing the date the item was published.	No	String	pubDate	
Publication Date Format (Server)	<p>The Java-compatible format in which the publication date should be returned in the response from the server.</p> <hr/> <p>Note</p> <p>For most RSS feeds, the default value must be modified. We recommend using the following format: E, d MMM yyyy HH:mm:ss z.</p> <hr/>	No	String	yyyy-MM-dd'T'HH:mm:ss.SSSXXX	
Non Mandatory Fields					
Display Description	Select this checkbox to include the contents of the item's description field in the display in the app, if one is included in the response from the server.	No	Checkbox	Checked	
Description	The name of the field in the feed code containing the description of the news item.	No	String	description	
Display Image	Select this checkbox to include any images linked in the response from the server in the display in the app.	No	Checkbox	Checked	
Image	The name of the field in the feed code containing the link to the image.	No	String	image	
Image Alt Text	Alternative text for the image. If not provided or available, this will be autogenerated for accessibility.	No	String	imageAltText	
Display Link To Item	Select this checkbox to include links in the response from the server in the display in the app.	No	Checkbox	Checked	
Link To Item	The name of the field in the feed code containing	No	String	link	

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
	the link.				
Additional Fields	<p>A list of additional fields that may be appear in the feed's code. When these fields appear in the feed, they are displayed in the item's Detail's page.</p> <p>Select Add Item to add a field to the list, and then fill in the fields as specified below.</p>	No	List		
Code	The name of the additional field in the feed code.	No	String		creator
Label	The label of the additional code.	No	String		Creator
Expect HTML Content	<p>Select this option if the value sent by the server for this field will be in HTML, so that the PI will render the field properly.</p> <p>When this checkbox is cleared, the PI treats the values as plain text.</p>	No	Checkbox	Unchecked	
Display Source Title	If enabled, will display the title, if available, of the feed itself.	No	Checkbox	Unchecked	
Display Source Description	If enabled, will display the description, if available, of the feed itself.	No	Checkbox	Unchecked	
Display Source Link	If enabled, will add alink, if available, to the feed's title and/or description.	No	Checkbox	Unchecked	
Timezone Conversion	If the publication date is adjusted for a timezone that isn't UTC, select the timezone from the list.	No	Dropdown list	UTC	
General					
News Feed Home Page Image	Used in the "hero" header visible on wider displays.	No	URI	https://defaultImage.jpg	
Enable Bookmarks	If enabled, allows the user to bookmark news items on their local device, until removed from the feed itself.	No	Checkbox	Checked	
Items Per Page	Determines how many items are shown on the Newsfeed main page at once. Maximum of 100.	No	Integer	20	
Default Locale	Used in date / datetime presentation.	No	String	en-gb	
Date Format (short)	Used in the date filter.	No	String	LL	
DateTime Format (short)	Used on the news item cards in the main page.	No	String	llll	
DateTime Format (long)	Used on the details page for a news item.	No	String	LLLL	

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
Text/Labels					
Main Page Title		No	String	Browse Newsfeeds	
Main Page Subtitle		No	String	Immerse yourself in news near to you, or news far away, on a variety of subjects	
Filters Title		No	String	Select a feed, or more than one	
Main Page Tag Line		No	String	Check out the latest news	
Showing Text		No	String	Showing:	
Navigation Bar 'Page' Text		No	String	Page	
Published At Text		No	String	Published at:	
All Items Text		No	String	All items	
Filter / Search Result Text	%1 will be replaced with the number in question.	No	String	%1 result	
Filter / Search Results (Plural) Text	%1 will be replaced with the number in question.	No	String	%1 results	
Bookmark Text	%1 will be replaced with the number in question.	No	String	1% bookmark	
Bookmarks (Plural) Text	%1 will be replaced with the number in question.	No	String	1% bookmarks	
All Bookmarks Text		No	String	All bookmarks	
Select Dates Text		No	String	Select dates	
Filters Tab Title		No	String	Filter By	
Clear Button Text		No	String	Clear	
Show Items Button Text		No	String	Show items	
'Published On' Label		No	String	Published On	
'Description' Label		No	String	Description	

Configuration Option	Description	Required	Data Type	Default	Example
'Source' Label		No	String	Source	
'Link to article' Text		No	String	Link to article	
No Items Found Text		No	String	No news items found. Keep digging!	
No Items Found Subtitle Text		No	String	Clear your filters if you have any, including the date filter, and try again.	
<p>Import/Export Configuration</p> <p>You can configure product integration and then export it to another campusM environment, for example, from sandbox to production or from preview to production.</p>					
Import your configuration file here	To import the configuration settings from a JSON file of a previously exported product integration, select Choose File to choose the file to load. Then, select Import Configuration to import the settings.	No			
Import Configuration	After selecting the JSON file to import, select this option to load the configuration settings from the file.	No			
Export Configuration	To export the current settings of the product integration as a JSON file, select this option.	No			