BigLever’s industry-standard Gears Product Line Engineering (PLE) Lifecycle Framework™ enables the integration of tools, assets and processes across the entire systems and software development lifecycle – from requirements to design, implementation, testing, maintenance and evolution.

BigLever Software™ provides enhanced integration solutions that utilize Gears concepts and constructs to extend third party tools and ensure consistent PLE capabilities directly from the framework. BigLever’s Bridge solutions make third party tools “product line aware” by incorporating standardized variation point mechanisms and enabling the execution of PLE operations – such as product configuration, variation point editing and variation impact analysis – directly from within third party tools.

BigLever offers the following Bridge solution for PTC:

PTC Windchill/BigLever Software Gears Bridge™: Enables engineering organizations to utilize Windchill bill-of-materials (BOM) as first-class engineering assets in the Gears PLE lifecycle and Gears PLE constructs as first-class mechanisms for managing product line diversity in Windchill BOMs.

More specifically, the Bridge allows users to:

- Use PLE mechanisms to manage the diversity for a full product line in a single, consolidated BOM, as a highly scalable alternative to cloned copies.
- Automatically configure BOM parts for different products by making feature choices in a Gears feature profile.
- Convert BOM parts into Gears variation points to encapsulate the PLE diversity for that part, whether the part is an assembly, component, material, or software.
- Use one or more BOMs in a larger collection of shared assets across the full engineering lifecycle for a product line portfolio.
- Perform integrated PLE operations – such as product configuration, variation point editing and variation impact analysis – directly from Windchill menus and forms.