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.

The Gears Universal Configuration Management Bridge™ enables companies to manage the evolution of product line assets over time, while the Gears Framework efficiently manages the variations among the different products within the space of the product line portfolio. The result is an elegant solution for managing both the variation in time and space for systems and software product lines.

BigLever offers the following integration solution for Perforce tools:

Perforce/Gears Connector for the Universal Configuration Management Bridge™: Provides seamless integration of time-based configuration management (CM) and feature-based variation management for product line assets in the Gears PLE Lifecycle Framework, enabling the automated execution of CM operations as the product line evolves. More specifically, the Perforce/Gears Connector enables the associated CM operations to be automatically executed in Perforce when the following commands are performed in Gears:

- New common files or directories, variation points, and product line data files are created.
- Existing common files or directories are converted into variation points.
- Product line data or source files are edited.
- Product line data files, source files, or source directories are renamed.

The Product Line Engineering (PLE) Ecosystem is an open community of world-class tool providers – including developers of commercial, open source, customized, integrated or proprietary Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) and Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) tools – established for the benefit of engineering organizations seeking consistent, compatible, fully unified PLE solutions.

BigLever’s Gears PLE Lifecycle Framework provides the technology foundation for the ecosystem. Gears delivers the PLE Bridge API, enabling tool makers to create bridges for connecting their tools directly with the framework.

BigLever offers built-in and Bridge integration solutions for engineering tools and integrated development environments across the full lifecycle:

- Requirements Engineering
- Modeling and Design
- Software Development
- Test Case Engineering
- Slideshow Development
- Spreadsheet Development
- Document Engineering
- Configuration Management
- Build Management

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