

## Press Release

### **BigLever Software and Method Park Partner to Deliver Feature-based Product Line Engineering Process Framework for the Enterprise**

*New Framework Brings Comprehensive Process Guidance and Governance to BigLever's onePLE Solution; Enables Organizations to Accelerate Product Line Engineering Adoption*

AUSTIN, Texas and PITTSBURGH – Sept. 18, 2017 – [BigLever Software](#), the long-standing leader in the [Product Line Engineering \(PLE\)](#) field, and [Method Park](#), the market leader in engineering process management, announced today that the companies have delivered the Feature-based PLE Process Framework, which provides an off-the-shelf template of the best practices that have enabled the industry's most notable PLE success stories. The new framework combines Method Park's Stages Process Management System with [BigLever's 3-Tiered PLE Methodology](#) to allow companies to accelerate their transition to PLE practice and achieve cross-functional alignment throughout the enterprise.

Companies can use the process framework to optimize their PLE operations by improving communication and collaboration across software, electrical, and mechanical domains and avoiding the pitfalls of ad-hoc and one-off approaches. BigLever

has incorporated the new framework as a key part of the company's holistic onePLE solution.

"Organizations face mounting challenges in managing increasing demand for product sophistication and diversity, and the resulting complexity," said Dr. Charles Krueger, CEO at BigLever. "Feature-based PLE addresses this complexity by providing a unified variant management approach across the enterprise – from product portfolio management to marketing, engineering, manufacturing, sales, and service. We are excited to team with Method Park to bring the Feature-based PLE Process Framework into our onePLE solution. This new framework provides clear, concise guidance regarding proven PLE practices and enables the essential process governance that organizations need to efficiently manage their PLE deployment under the onePLE approach. Companies can speed PLE adoption by tailoring this process template to align with their organizational structure, process workflows, practices, and overall business model."

"BigLever is the one-stop-shop for PLE and we are very proud that they chose our Stages platform to build the PLE Process Framework," said Dr. Erich Meier, Method Park CTO and creator of Stages. "Together we can boost our clients' PLE capabilities and empower them to quickly roll out new processes across their organizations. Stages is already widely used for managing engineering processes and our clients will benefit from the tremendous PLE knowledge that is codified in the new framework."

Feature-based PLE dramatically simplifies the creation, delivery, maintenance, and evolution of a product line portfolio by using a shared set of engineering assets, a managed set of features,

and an efficient means for automating the production of the product line. As PLE evolves into an enterprise-wide solution, it is critical for organizations to establish their own framework for PLE operations. The new process framework provides a fully customizable Concept of Operations (ConOps) template that lays out the organizational structure and puts that structure into motion by clearly defining the organizational roles, responsibilities, and processes needed to operate effectively under the PLE paradigm.

Based on BigLever's 3-Tiered PLE Methodology, and built on Method Park's world-class Stages Process Management solution, the Feature-based PLE Process Framework enables organizations to establish a PLE ConOps, based on an incremental adoption approach. The framework, which is available now, allows each group within an enterprise – and across the engineering lifecycle – to follow the proven processes that adhere to the new PLE ISO standards currently being developed.

### **About Method Park**

Method Park is an established and successful consulting and software company for safety-critical systems in the automotive industry and medical technology area, for which the company develops advanced proprietary software solutions. Method Park brings extensive know-how to fields which have high and extremely high safety requirements. With this knowledge Method Park offers its customers a range of solutions that contributes to the success of each company. Method Park is the competent partner for consulting, coaching, training, engineering services and products for all software development processes. The "Stages" Web-based process management portal, developed by Method Park, supports users with the practical implementation of all development processes. Stages ensures the implementation of predefined quality standards and process models and can be integrated in all common development environments. Furthermore, "Stages" enables the global distribution of development tasks beyond corporate boundaries. Founded in Erlangen in 2001, Method Park employs around 170 persons at sites in Erlangen, Munich, Stuttgart, Hannover, and Frankfurt as well as in Detroit, Miami, and Pittsburgh in the USA. For more information, visit [www.methodpark.com](http://www.methodpark.com)

## About BigLever Software

BigLever Software is the long-standing leader in the Product Line Engineering field. BigLever's holistic onePLE solution delivers the leading-edge technology, proven methodology, business strategy and organizational change expertise needed to efficiently transition to and operate a game-changing PLE practice. The company's state-of-the-art PLE methods and tools provide one unified, automated approach for feature-based variant management. This approach extends across the full lifecycle, including engineering and operations disciplines; software, electrical, and mechanical domains; and tool ecosystem. Some of the world's largest forward-thinking organizations across a spectrum of industries are leveraging BigLever's PLE solution to engineer their competitive advantage through order-of-magnitude improvements in productivity, time-to-market, portfolio scalability, and product quality. BigLever is based in Austin, Texas. For more information, visit [www.biglever.com](http://www.biglever.com).

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