

AMI Pre-Boot Applications (PBA)

OS-independent Services at the Touch of a Key



AMI Pre-boot Applications (PBA) offer system builders the ability to store tools and applications on a hidden partition of the hard disk. AMI PBA tools and services, that are easily activated by a hotkey at startup, enhance the user experience, elevate system availability and facilitate customer service.

AMI Pre-Boot Applications support BIOS and EFI firmware environments.

Data Sheet

01 12 2005

HIGHLIGHTS

- > Stored on a hidden hard-disk partition
- > Pre-boot Menu
- > AMI Rescue and Rescue Plus
- > BIOS Upgrade Service
- > Diagnostics
- > Hidden Partition Backup and Recovery Tool
- > Tool Library for OEM development and customization

AMI PBA is a suite of applications or services available prior to the system booting to the OS. The Pre-Boot Menu (PBM) provides a user-friendly graphical menu from which the user can launch various PBAs.

AMI PBA includes the following:

- * AMI Rescue and Rescue Plus: Image-based and non-destructive system recovery
- * Web Browser
- * Diagnostic Utilities
- * BIOS Upgrade
- * Hidden Partition Backup and Restore

AMI provides a complete set of tools for an OEM to customize and control the content of the pre-boot environment. PBM easily integrates third-party or custom applications through the Service Creation Tool. AMI provides libraries for creating and manipulating the hidden partition into the system hard disk and the services defined in the hidden partition. A graphical library is also available.

AMI Rescue provides the user the opportunity to recover a system back to a snapshot of the OS at factory installation. AMI Rescue Plus provides the user the opportunity to recover a system back to a

previous working point without data loss. BIOS Upgrades can be implemented in many ways, according to OEM specifications.

The Hidden Partition Backup and Restore tool allows the user to backup the entire AMI hidden partition or selected services.

A pre-boot web-browser gives the user the ability to quickly access the internet for browsing or to download system updates and security fixes for an OS that has been compromised by a virus or some other badly behaving program. OEMs give their users a way to connect to their support website if the main operating system is not functioning properly.

The diagnostic utilities give the user or OEM the ability to test all the system components to ensure that the hardware of the system is functioning properly. BIOS Upgrades provides further user protection.

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Features

AMI Pre-boot Menu (PBM)

Provides a user-friendly graphical menu of installed applications the user may select for execution.

- Automatically displays installed applications
- Easy execution of tools and applications
- Selection of normal boot

Key Features

Tools provided for creating new services for applications

Possible to integrate any OEM application

Provides capability of embedding a CD image into the hidden partition

Services can be of several different types:
Firmware (BIOS or EFI), WinPE, Linux

PBA Installation

Provides a user-friendly interface to easily install applications into the AMI Pre-boot Environment. Allows the contents of the installation package to be easily modified.

Available as Windows, EFI or CD bootable application

Automatically creates hidden partition and initializes pre-boot environment

Configurable hidden partition sizes

Configurable hot-key designation

Configurable Pre-install and post-install actions

Provides confirmation of installations as well as service-specific help at the end of installation

Hidden Partition Backup and Restore

Allows the user to create backups of the installed applications and data. For example, this tool allows a user to save recovery images on a different media to ensure their safety.

- EFI-based tool
- User may select which services to back up
- User may select which services to restore
- Compresses data
- Selectable backup locations

The tool automatically spans the data across multiple media, in case the selected data to backup exceeds the capacity of a single media.

AMI Rescue

Recovers the system software image installed at the factory

- Backup/restore multiple partitions (block-based)
- Progress indications during backup/restore
- Guides user through setup
- Compresses data
- Preparation tool increases efficiency
- Multilanguage Support: UNICODE
- User-friendly graphical user interface

This service does not preserve user data contained in the partition recovered, unless the software installation is based on two partitions: one for OS and applications, the other containing user data.

AMI Rescue Plus

Recovers system software and applications back to a previous working point without damaging user data. This service works in conjunction with the AMI Restore Point creation utility.

- Backup/restore multiple partitions (file-based)
- Progress indications during backup/restore
- Compresses data
- WinPE-based service
- Multiple restore points
- User configurable restore points
- Multilanguage support: UNICODE
- User-friendly graphical user interface

AMIDIAG

Provides advanced system diagnostics, running without the constraints of the operating system. Provides diagnostics for all major system components.

- System board
- Memory
- Storage devices (hard disks/CD-ROMs/DVD-ROMs/etc)
- Video
- Keyboard and mouse

BIOS Upgrade Service

Various methods can be used based on customer specification.

Web Browser

ROM-based - No OS needed

Full graphical capability

Javascript support (Optional)

Support for Cookies (Optional)

Plugin support

Multilanguage - UNICODE

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)



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