UNIVERSAL RAID CLASS DRIVER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A RAID class driver model enables users to easily combine two or more disks into a bootable RAID system without specialized disk controllers and allows the creation of RAID systems using disks of different types, controllers, and interfaces. A RAID class driver is initialized in response to the identification of a RAID controller. Disk controllers return RAID-specific device identifications, rather than a standard disk device identifications, for each disk to be included in the RAID system. The RAID class driver binds a RAID-specific functional interface to each disk having a RAID-specific device identification and combines the disks into a disk object representing the entire RAID system. The disk object provides the operating system with a standard disk device identification. The operating system loads a standard disk driver to interface with the disk object, thereby enabling transparent access to the RAID system.

Fig 4