Explicit Partition Map (EPM)
ZKA Technologies

Revision II.2B

EPM is a simple layout used to boot mass storage media to optical discs. It uses something called a 'description block' in order to describe the Operating System/Bootloader/Drivers...

Each EPM drive must be addressed in LBA mode, if your drive doesn't support LBA, please prompt the user with the following error: "This drive cannot be formatted as an explicit partition map."

Please provide a message such as 'This drive has an EPM partition, but is too old to boot anything on it.' We want to ditch as many legacy components as possible.

Each EPM disk starts at LBA 0, where the EPM bootblock is. The Boot block tells us more about the disk, such as the magic number (which tells for what CPU it is intended for) the GUID, the name, version, number of partition blocks, *SectorSz* and *LbaStart* fields.