- **Registry :**
  - **Database that stores :**
    - Hardware information
    - Network Information
    - User preferences
    - File types
    - Application information
  - **%systemroot%\system32\config**
  - **Hkey_classes_root -** defines standard class objects (file types,...)
  - **Hkey_current_users -** stores the current user settings
  - **Hkey_users -** stores all the personalized information for all users on PC
  - **Hkey_local_machine -** all the data for a system's non-user-specific config
  - **Hkey_current_config :** Extra values from HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE
  - **Data type stored in values (98 % of all registry entries) :**
    - **String :** Any form of data
    - **Binary :** Binary
    - **DWORD :** 32 bit binary values
    - **QWORD :** 64 bit binary values
- **Boot :**
  - **Boot files are NOT capable of booting the system**
    - System files (ntldr, ntdetect.com and boot.ini) do it
  - **Master File Table (MFT) -- > in BIOS based system**
    - points the location of the system files
  - **UEFI** → Loads bootmgr directly
  - **Required Files**
    - ntldr (begins the process)
    - boot.ini
    - ntdetect.com
    - ntbootdd.sys (if using SCSI)
  - **Windows XP :**
    - ntoskrnl.exe (windows kernel)
    - Device Drivers
    - \Winnt\System32\Config\System file
  - **Windows Vista/7 :**
    - Bootmgr starts and reads data from BCD (Boot Configuration Data)
    - bootmgr loads winload.exe
      - Loads → Hardware abstraction layer, Registry, Drivers
- **ODBC (Open Database Connectivity)**
  - Universal coding standard to write databases and the applications themselves

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References :

- Mike Meyers - CompTIA A+ Certification All-In-One Exam Guide 8th edition