# CWE Detail – CWE-561

## Description

The product contains dead code, which can never be executed.

## Extended Description

Dead code is code that can never be executed in a running program. The surrounding code makes it impossible for a section of code to ever be executed.

## Threat-Mapped Scoring

Score: 0.0

Priority: Unclassified

## Observed Examples (CVEs)

**•** CVE-2014-1266: chain: incorrect "goto" in Apple SSL product bypasses certificate validation, allowing Adversary-in-the-Middle (AITM) attack (Apple "goto fail" bug). CWE-705 (Incorrect Control Flow Scoping) -> CWE-561 (Dead Code) -> CWE-295 (Improper Certificate Validation) -> CWE-393 (Return of Wrong Status Code) -> CWE-300 (Channel Accessible by Non-Endpoint).

## Modes of Introduction

**•** Implementation: N/A

## Common Consequences

**•** Impact: Quality Degradation — Notes: Dead code that results from code that can never be executed is an indication of problems with the source code that needs to be fixed and is an indication of poor quality.

**•** Impact: Reduce Maintainability — Notes:

## Potential Mitigations

**•** Implementation: Remove dead code before deploying the application. (Effectiveness: N/A)

**•** Testing: Use a static analysis tool to spot dead code. (Effectiveness: N/A)

## Applicable Platforms

**•** None (Class: Not Language-Specific, Prevalence: Undetermined)

## Demonstrative Examples

**•** N/A

**•** (In this case it is a good thing that the methods are dead: invoking either one would cause an infinite loop.)

**•** N/A