# CWE Detail – CWE-408

## Description

The product allows an entity to perform a legitimate but expensive operation before authentication or authorization has taken place.

## Extended Description

N/A

## Threat-Mapped Scoring

Score: 0.0

Priority: Unclassified

## Observed Examples (CVEs)

**•** CVE-2004-2458: Tool creates directories before authenticating user.

## Modes of Introduction

**•** Architecture and Design: N/A

**•** Implementation: N/A

## Common Consequences

**•** Impact: DoS: Amplification, DoS: Crash, Exit, or Restart, DoS: Resource Consumption (CPU), DoS: Resource Consumption (Memory) — Notes: System resources, CPU and memory, can be quickly consumed. This can lead to poor system performance or system crash.

## Applicable Platforms

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

## Demonstrative Examples

**•** This code first reads a specified file into memory, then prints the file if the user is authorized to see its contents. The read of the file into memory may be resource intensive and is unnecessary if the user is not allowed to see the file anyway.

## Notes

**•** Relationship: Overlaps authentication errors.