# CWE Detail – CWE-466

## Description

A function can return a pointer to memory that is outside of the buffer that the pointer is expected to reference.

## Extended Description

N/A

## Threat-Mapped Scoring

Score: 0.0

Priority: Unclassified

## Modes of Introduction

**•** Implementation: N/A

## Common Consequences

**•** Impact: Read Memory, Modify Memory — Notes:

## Applicable Platforms

**•** C (Class: None, Prevalence: Undetermined)

**•** C++ (Class: None, Prevalence: Undetermined)

## Notes

**•** Maintenance: This entry should have a chaining relationship with CWE-119 instead of a parent / child relationship, however the focus of this weakness does not map cleanly to any existing entries in CWE. A new parent is being considered which covers the more generic problem of incorrect return values. There is also an abstract relationship to weaknesses in which one component sends incorrect messages to another component; in this case, one routine is sending an incorrect value to another.