In 2018 there was a false alarm for a missile strike in the American state of Hawaii, this state-wide alarm continued for up to half an hour. This called mass panic as people clamoured to safe areas in an attempt to protect themselves from what they assumed was an impending missile attack that could end their very lives.

Later on, it turned out that this was due to human error, but the upcoming investigations showed many flaws in the emergency management software that could have led to this occurrence.

The very fact that this could happen on accident and cause a false alarm could also mean that there is the possibility for the alarm not being set of at all in the event of an actual missile attack. This is very concerning and is an issue that comes with the automation of using a computer software for such an important role.