

Single Automated Business Exchange for Reporting



Homeland Security

Science and Technology

BUSINESS OPERATING DATA INFORMS RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLANS

After natural or man-made disasters and emergency situations, a necessary detail for prioritizing response and recovery efforts is the operating status of the area's businesses. In 2019 Hurricane Barry's wake, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) used business status information data in Louisiana to guide the recovery plan and to help decide which organizations needed federal aid. FEMA pulled this data from a self-reporting tool called the Single Automated Business Exchange for Reporting (SABER).

By inputting business information to SABER, organizations have a means to share their information directly with response and recovery agencies like FEMA. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) is now funding SABER, making it available for both public safety and private sector companies to use.

SEAMLESSLY SHARING BUSINESS DATA WITH RECOVERY ENTITIES

SABER is available on the web and via a mobile application. The tool allows users to upload and share real-time business status information with other organizations during an emergency or crisis. Organizations can share their information regarding operating status, location, challenges to their operation (e.g., blocked roads, power outages), resource levels for normal operations (e.g., supply chain disruptions, utilities), and an estimate of time to reopen. With SABER, this information is provided directly to government aid entities such as FEMA, helping the response and recovery process happen more quickly. This information is essential to planning effective recovery efforts, and DHS S&T's funding and support has allowed SABER to grow and refine its information sharing services, as well as expand its reach to both private and public sectors of business and government.

Businesses can enter their status information to SABER's secure website and server by using one of the following methods:

- Automated connection: continuously uploading and sharing business status information in real time
- Excel spreadsheet: if multiple branches have been affected by a disaster, a spreadsheet with business status information about all affected locations can be uploaded

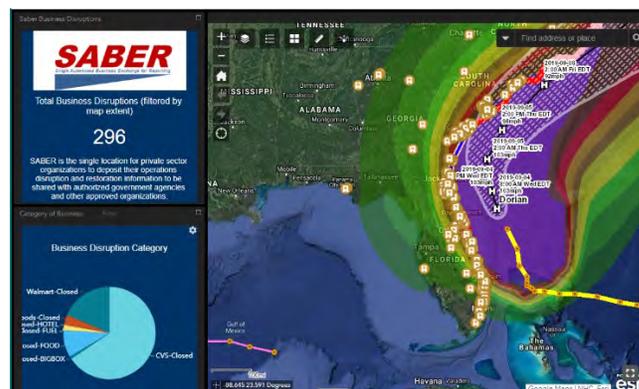
- Mobile app: an individual location can upload its business status information via a SABER-specific mobile app

FASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

SABER is designed to adapt to differing user capabilities in government and business. Organizations can easily retrieve the data and use it in their own situational awareness and common operating picture applications.

SABER helps its users continue or resume their operations both during and after a disaster by:

- Communicating their operational status and whether they need assistance to maintain or resume regular operations
- Helping them specify unmet needs to governments to set priorities and remove obstacles that hinder their operation
- Allowing collaboration with other businesses in addition to local, state, and federal organizations and aid groups



SABER status shown in an ArcGIS application.

EXPANDING THE RECOVERY NETWORK

There are currently 130,000 organizations in more than 30 states across the nation that are using SABER's services to report their business status during emergencies. By the end of 2020, DHS S&T and SABER aim to have 300,000 organizations across the United States employing SABER to share their business status and provide effective and targeted aid to each other during emergencies and disasters.

