

# DHS Science and Technology Directorate

## National Urban Security Technology Laboratory



**Locations:** New York, NY, and Oakbrook Terrace, IL: Chicago Metropolitan Area

**Core Competencies:** Test and Evaluation, Research and Development in Radiological/Nuclear Response and Recovery, Technical Advisors to First Responders

**Certifications:** ISO 9001:2015 Certified, ISO 14001 (Compliant), ANSI/AIHA, Z-10-2005 (Compliant)

**Key Customers:** Federal, state and local first responders, DHS Components, S&T Divisions



### National Urban Security Technology Laboratory

The [National Urban Security Technology Laboratory](#) (NUSTL) is a federal laboratory organized within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T). Building upon its proud history since 1947, NUSTL provides the national first responder community with the necessary services, products and tools to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from homeland security threats and events.

### Testing and Evaluation

NUSTL conducts testing and evaluation (T&E) that influences technology development and informs acquisition and deployment decisions. NUSTL's test, evaluation and assessment activities ensure technology effectiveness, performance and suitability. Partnering with technology end users to understand their most pressing needs and challenges, the lab validates technology requirements and evaluates operational readiness, strengthening the capabilities of our nation's first responders.

NUSTL provides a full spectrum of testing services for commercial off-the-shelf and emerging technologies:

- Leads operational T&E and field assessments;
- Conducts independent laboratory testing;

- Performs technology performance characterization; and
- Holds operational experimentations with end users and private industry manufacturers.

### Radiological/Nuclear Response and Recovery Research and Development

With federal interagency partners, NUSTL's research and development (R&D) portfolio provides technical support, tools and guidance in advance of a radiological/nuclear incident so that state and local agencies can initiate a response in the first minutes and hours. NUSTL's actionable guidance and technology solutions enhance response capabilities for:

- Managing the complexity of a radiological response;
- Incident characterization and initial decision-making;
- Immediate lifesaving and issuing of protective actions;
- Stabilization and control of impacted areas; and
- Site cleanup and decontamination.

NUSTL R&D activities successfully transition capabilities to first responders and the federal response assets that support them, so they can seamlessly integrate, save lives and minimize impact to the community and economy.

### Technical Advisors to First Responders

NUSTL relays first responder issues and needs to developers, while advising first responders on innovative solutions from the technology development community:

- Develops knowledge products and reports that inform first responders on the selection, use and maintenance of equipment and technology. Reports are posted on <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/saver>.
- Hosts the New York Area Science and Technology (NYAST) Forum to highlight developments in science and technology for the homeland security community. NYAST has more than 500 members from 150 different federal, state and local agencies, academia, and private industry.
- Supports radiation detection training and exercises for thousands of federal, state and local first responders by providing licensed radioactive sources, equipment and subject matter expertise.



**Homeland Security**

Science and Technology



For more information contact [NUSTL@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:NUSTL@hq.dhs.gov).