



**Homeland  
Security**

Science and Technology

# Highlight

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security**



**System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) established the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program to assist emergency responders making procurement decisions.

Located within the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) of DHS, the SAVER Program conducts objective assessments and validations on commercial equipment and systems, and provides those results along with other relevant equipment information to the emergency response community in an operationally useful form. SAVER provides information on equipment that falls within the categories listed in the DHS Authorized Equipment List (AEL). The SAVER Program mission includes:

- Conducting impartial, practitioner-relevant, operationally oriented assessments and validations of emergency responder equipment; and
- Providing information that enables decision makers and responders to better select, procure, use, and maintain emergency responder equipment.

Information provided by the SAVER Program will be shared nationally with the responder community, providing a life- and cost-saving asset to DHS, as well as to Federal, state, and local responders.

The SAVER Program is supported by a network of technical agents who perform assessment and validation activities. Further, SAVER focuses primarily on two main questions for the emergency responder community: "What equipment is available?" and "How does it perform?"

To contact the SAVER Program Support Office  
Telephone: 877-336-2752

E-mail: [saver@dhs.gov](mailto:saver@dhs.gov)

Visit SAVER on the RKB website:

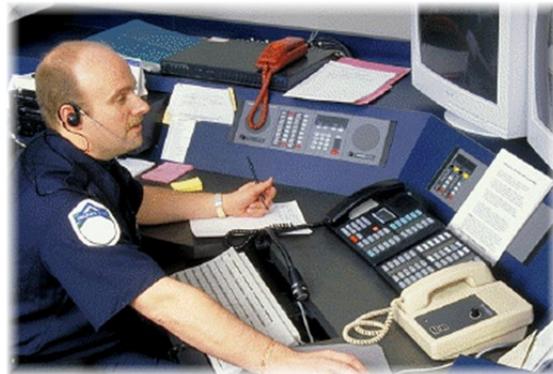
<https://www.rkb.us/saver>

## Computer-Aided Dispatch Systems

Computer-aided dispatch (CAD) systems are used by dispatchers, call takers, and 911 operators to prioritize and record incident calls, identify the status and location of responders in the field, and effectively dispatch responder personnel. CAD systems can provide messages to emergency responders in the field via mobile data terminals, radios, and cell phones. CAD systems may also interface with geographic information systems, automatic vehicle location systems, caller identification systems, logging recorders, and various databases.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right CAD system for their jurisdiction, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) Atlantic prepared the *Computer-Aided Dispatch Systems TechNote* for the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program. The TechNote provides a technology overview, as well as information on the installation, operation, and maintenance of CAD systems; system advancements and applications are also discussed.

All reports in this series will be placed in the SAVER section of the Responder Knowledge Base website (<https://www.rkb.us/saver>) as they become available. Information on other technologies being evaluated by the SAVER Program can also be found on the website.



**CAD Workstation**