



**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;
- 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

Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:

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

Communications Interoperability

Communications interoperability between emergency response agencies during times of crises has been a difficult challenge for many years. In recent years, efforts to solve this challenge have been stepped up on many fronts. The need for easy-to-achieve interoperability has become even more critical as preparations are made for future domestic incidents.

The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN), Charleston, a SAVER Technical Agent, will conduct an assessment with the goal of providing communications planners with the ability to identify and properly address communications limitations involving capacity, geography, and hardware and/or software interoperability.

The *Communications Interoperability Study: Market Survey Report* is based on the results of extensive Web-based open source market research, a Federal Business Opportunities solicitation for information, and collaboration with subject matter experts. This report does not provide an exhaustive list of methods or products available for addressing communications interoperability.

This report and reports on other technologies are located on the SAVER Web site at <https://www.rkb.us/SAVER>.