



**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?"

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Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:

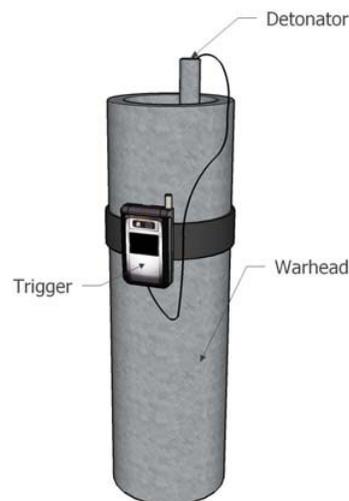
<https://www.rkb.us/saver>

## Counter-IED Technologies

On February 12, 2007, President George W. Bush signed Homeland Security Presidential Directive 19 (HSPD-19) which deals exclusively with combating the domestic use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). This directive defines an IED as "an explosive device that is fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating explosives or other destructive, lethal, pyrotechnic, or incendiary chemicals." Essentially, an IED is a bomb made with readily available materials intended to either disable or destroy personnel and/or equipment. While the task of rendering IEDs safe is typically handled by trained professionals, emergency responders should be familiar with the technologies involved in countering IEDs.

In order to provide emergency responders with information on counter-IED technologies, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Atlantic, has prepared a TechNote for the SAVER Program. *The Counter-IED Technologies TechNote* details the characteristics of IEDs and the technologies used to counter or interfere with IED components.

The TechNote will be placed on the SAVER Web site (<https://www.rkb.us/SAVER>) once it becomes available. Information on other technologies can also be found on the Web site.



**Components of an IED**