



**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?"

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Visit SAVER on the Responder Knowledge Base  
Web site: <https://www.rkb.us/saver>

## Explosive Entry Breaching Frames

Explosive entry breaching frames are used by bomb technicians and Special Weapons and Tactics teams during tactical operations for rapid entry into a structure. Breaching frames allow explosive entry teams to quickly set up and place the explosive charge, reducing the amount of time team members are exposed to dangerous situations.

To assist emergency responders making procurement decisions, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate, established the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program. As a SAVER Technical Agent, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Atlantic conducted a comparative assessment of explosive entry breaching frames. Prior to the assessment, a market survey was conducted in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and the *Explosive Entry Breaching Frames Market Survey Report* was produced. A focus group was then conducted to identify equipment selection criteria for the assessment, determine evaluation criteria, and recommend assessment scenarios. Results can be found in the *Explosive Entry Breaching Frames Focus Group Report*.

All reports in this series, including the *Explosive Entry Breaching Frames Assessment Report*, will be located in the SAVER section of the Responder Knowledge Base Web site (<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 Web site.



**Explosive Entry Breaching Frames Assessment**