Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Highlight

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

SAVER
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

Electronic Security Systems

Electronic security systems utilize computer software and electronic devices to carry out a host of security functions to enhance the protection of a designated area. An electronic security system is comprised of one or more subsystems, typically intrusion detection, access control, and closed-circuit television (CCTV). The electronic security system can provide the hardware and software for these subsystems or supply an interface for existing subsystems. The electronic security system monitors and collects data from the subsystems, enabling system operators to interpret the data, determine a response, and counter events quickly and with minimal errors.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right electronic security system for their jurisdiction, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN), Atlantic, has prepared a handbook for the SAVER Program. The *Electronic Security Systems Handbook* details the personnel required to install, configure, and operate an electronic security system. The handbook also describes the hardware, software, communication protocols, security protocols, applications, and emerging technologies.

The handbook 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.

Control Room of an Electronic Security System