



**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](mailto:saver@dhs.gov)

Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:

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

## Explosives Detection Equipment

In recent years federal government agencies, private research facilities, and commercial entities have made a concerted effort to find technical solutions for explosives detection. The complexity of this effort is compounded by the wide array of commercially available explosive compounds, the military-grade explosive compounds/ weapons that can be illegally obtained, and the commercially available chemicals that can be combined to manufacture explosive compounds.

The Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NAVSEA) has conducted a market survey to identify all available current portable commercial off-the-shelf explosive detection devices. The Explosives Detection Equipment (EDE) Market Survey Report consists of Web-based searches, requests for information, and collaboration with EDE subject matter experts.

This report as well as reports on other technologies are located on the SAVER Web site (<https://www.rkb.us/SAVER>).