



**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>

Handheld Metal Detectors

Handheld Metal Detectors (HHMD) are used by emergency responders to conduct security screening of individuals at access control checkpoints. HHMD are specifically designed to detect suspect items that contain metallic components such as weapons or illicit contraband.

As a SAVER Program Technical Agent, the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division has conducted a market survey of currently available commercial off-the-shelf HHMD. The market survey report is a compilation of data about HHMD, and is based on the results of:

- A web-based, open-source market search
- A "Sources Sought" request for information that was e-mailed to all identified HHMD vendors
- A "Sources Sought" packet posted on <http://www.nswc.navy.mil> "Sources Sought Announcements"
- Collaboration with HHMD subject-matter experts.

The full *HHMD Market Survey Report* is available on the SAVER Web site (<https://www.rkb.us/SAVER>). Reports on other technologies being assessed in the SAVER Program are also available on the Web site.