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

Incident Decision Support Software

Incident decision support software provides incident commanders, emergency managers, and responders with the flexibility, skill sets, and tools necessary to plan, manage, coordinate, and communicate critical information during small- or large-scale incidents. When placed in operation, the software products aim to allow responders to manage, identify, communicate, and distribute information in multiple formats to other agencies in a timely, effective manner.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right incident decision support software application for their jurisdiction, Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) prepared a series of documents for the SAVER Program. EKU conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Market Survey Report on Incident Decision Support Software*. EKU also produced the *Incident Decision Support Software Application Note*, which provides information and recommendations on the operational usage of incident decision support software.

All reports in this series will be located in the SAVER section of the RKB 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.

Incident Decision Support Software Display