



**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:

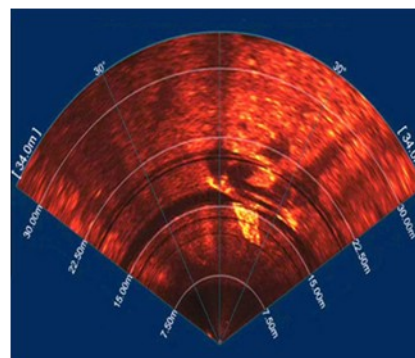
<https://www.rkb.us/saver>

## Imaging Sonar Systems

Imaging Sonar Systems are used to detect and identify submerged objects of interest, using high-frequency, narrow field of view, underwater sonar that produces video-like acoustic imagery even in conditions of low to no visibility. These systems can be pole-mounted, secured to a remotely operated vehicle, or hand carried by a diver.

As a SAVER Program Technical Agent, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) Atlantic has conducted a comparative assessment of imaging sonar systems for the SAVER Program. Prior to the assessment, SPAWARSYSCEN Atlantic conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Imaging Sonar Systems Market Survey Report*. 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 *Imaging Sonar Systems Focus Group Recommendations* report.

All reports in the series, including the *Imaging Sonar Systems Assessment Report*, 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.



**Imaging Sonar System**