



**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>

## Law Enforcement Tactical Boots

Law enforcement personnel are continually faced with diverse operations and, because responder safety is critical, these professionals must be equipped with the proper protection to efficiently perform their duties. Law Enforcement Tactical boots (LE boots) are a critical part of law enforcement duty gear. LE Boots are available from numerous manufacturers and offer a variety of materials, sizing, and construction features.

As a SAVER Program technical agent, the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) has performed a long-term comparative assessment of LE boots to provide emergency responders with reference information on currently available products. The *Law Enforcement Boots Focus Group Report* captures the method of establishing the operational criteria for the assessment. The *Law Enforcement Boots Market Survey Report* provides a snapshot of the commercial LE boots currently available on the market. Full results of the long-term assessment will be provided in the *Law Enforcement Boots Assessment Report*.

All reports in this series will be located on the SAVER Web site at <https://www.rkb.us/SAVER> as they become available. Reports on other technologies being assessed by the SAVER Program can also be found on the Web site.