



Homeland Security

Science and Technology

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>

Highlight

Mobile Command Vehicles

Mobile command vehicles support the management of incidents and planned events by providing interior and/or exterior work spaces and command and control capabilities to the incident commander on-scene or at remote locations. Vendors provide mobile command vehicles in various forms with diverse capabilities. However, these vehicles are not a one-size-fits-all solution; emergency responders must mix and match communications and other equipment based on their needs and budget constraints. Many jurisdictions may already have a sizeable investment in their deployable communications capabilities and simply need to add new technology to the assets they already possess. Others seek to purchase mobile command vehicles, but do not know how to turn operational requirements into equipment purchases.

To assist emergency responders making procurement decisions, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate, established the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program. As a SAVER Technical Agent, Eastern Kentucky University has prepared the *Mobile Command Vehicles Selection Guide*. The Selection Guide provides acquisition and application guidance, including decision tools, to response agencies looking to purchase or upgrade a mobile command vehicle.

All reports will be placed in the SAVER section of the Responder Knowledge Base 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.



Mobile Command Vehicle