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?"

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https://www.rkb.us/saver

Mobile License Plate Recognition Systems

License Plate Recognition (LPR) is the ability to capture an image of a license plate code, convert the code into readable text, and compare it to a registration database for identification. All LPR systems consist of three major components: imaging subsystem, software recognition, and user output. LPR technology automates what is normally a tedious and labor-intensive process to provide information to law enforcement practitioners, and it reduces the timeframe used to research and identify vehicles.

As a SAVER Program Technical Agent, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN), Atlantic, conducted a comparative assessment of license plate recognition systems for the SAVER Program. Prior to the assessment, SPAWARCEN conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Mobile License Plate Recognition 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. Focus group results can be found in the *Mobile License Plate Recognition Systems Focus Group Recommendations* report.

All reports in the series, including the *Mobile License Plate Recognition Systems Assessment Report*, will be located on the SAVER Web site (https://www.rkb.us/SAVER) as they become available. Information on other technologies can also be found on the Web site.

How License Plate Recognition Works