



**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?"

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>

Night Vision Technologies: Image Intensifiers

Night vision technology has been a common component of military applications requiring object identification in daylight, dark, and near-dark conditions. This technology has been widely adopted, with growing use by the law enforcement community for surveillance activities. Night vision technology provides increased capabilities, efficiencies and methods of operation. The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN), Charleston, a SAVER Technical Agent, has prepared the *Handbook of Night Vision Technologies* to provide emergency responders, law enforcement, and other specialists with a reference on night vision technologies.

SPAWARSYSCEN also assessed emergency responder-oriented hand-held image intensifier (I²) night vision equipment in a port (maritime) environment and provided results in the *Ports at Night, Seeing with Hand-Held Intensifiers Assessment Findings Report*. The Operational Validation Program placed the equipment in the hands of the emergency responder to evaluate its operational usage and documented the findings in the *Night Vision Image Intensifier Operational Validation of Night Vision Equipment Report*. Information on the technical aspects of the equipment can be found in the *Night Vision Technology TechNote*.

All reports in the series, as well as reports on other technologies, are available on the SAVER Web site (<https://www.rkb.us/SAVER>).



Emergency responder-oriented handheld I² night vision equipment (Left) in a port (maritime) environment (Right)