The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program to assist emergency responders making procurement decisions. 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 U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Authorized Equipment List (AEL). The SAVER Program mission includes:

- Conducting impartial, practitioner-relevant, and 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-saving and cost-saving asset to FEMA, 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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Guide to Conducting a Physical Security Assessment of Law Enforcement Facilities

Physical security is the protection of an organization’s assets from threats that could cause losses or damages, possibly affecting the operation of the organization. Assets include any personnel, property, and information necessary to sustain the organization’s activities. Threats include any event such as fire, natural disasters, criminal acts, and terrorism that can harm an asset. Maintaining a strong physical security posture is an ongoing process that involves a continual assessment of new assets and changing threats.

A physical security assessment evaluates existing or planned security measures that protect assets from threats and identifies improvements when deemed necessary. Completing a physical security assessment enables officials to pinpoint the vulnerabilities in their physical security posture and then assign and prioritize risks to their assets. Financial resources can be utilized more efficiently by taking care of assets at highest risk first, and then addressing lower risk issues as funds permit.

To assist emergency responders in conducting a physical security assessment, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN), Charleston, has prepared the Guide to Conducting a Physical Security Assessment of Law Enforcement Facilities. This guide provides an overview for analyzing the physical security posture of a law enforcement facility, and it is available on the SAVER Web site (https://www.rkb.us/SAVER). Information on other technologies can also be found on the Web site.

Physical Security Assessment of LE Facilities