



**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; and
- 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 website:

<https://www.rkb.us/saver>

## Portable Radiological Air Samplers

Portable radiological air samplers draw air through a collection medium onto which atmospheric particles or gases are deposited. At the end of the sampling period, the collection medium is removed from the sampler and analyzed at a field laboratory or a central laboratory to determine the amount of atmospheric particles or gases in the collection medium.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right portable radiological air sampler for their jurisdiction, the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) prepared a series of documents for the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program. The *Portable High Volume Air Samplers for Measuring Radioactivity Market Survey Report* provides a snapshot of the current commercial marketplace. The *Portable Air Samplers for Measuring Radioactivity in Air TechNote* provides a technology overview and discusses types of air samplers and air flow rate calibrators.

All reports in this series will be placed in the SAVER section of the Responder Knowledge Base website (<https://www.rkb.us/saver>) as they become available. Information on other technologies evaluated by the SAVER Program can also be found on the website.



**Portable High Volume Air Samplers**