Remote Chemical Detection Systems

During a HAZMAT or weapons of mass destruction (WMD) chemical-related incident, responders need the ability to detect chemicals that could adversely affect the public, themselves, and their response. Response teams rely on portable, point detection Remote Chemical Detection Systems (RCDS) to detect chemical vapors in the air. RCDS alert responders who are at a remote location or command center of a chemical source at a disaster site, either through alarm systems or through wired or wireless data transmission. This assists responders in remaining at a safe distance from the affected area.

As a SAVER Program technical agent, the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) has conducted a comparative assessment of RCDS. Prior to the assessment, the CDP conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the Market Survey Report on Remote Chemical Detection Systems (RCDS). A focus group was then held to identify equipment selection criteria for the assessment, determine evaluation criteria, and recommend assessment scenarios. More information is available in the Focus Group Recommendations on Remote Chemical Detection Systems (RCDS).

These reports, as well as the Remote Chemical Detection Systems (RCDS) Assessment Report, are placed on the SAVER Web site (https://www.rkb.us/SAVER) as they become available. Reports on other technologies being assessed in the SAVER Program can also be found on the Web site.

Remote Chemical Detection System