



**Homeland
Security**

Science and Technology

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?"

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

Highlight

Transportable Satellite Terminals for Broadband Services

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) defines broadband service as high-speed Internet access with data transmission speeds exceeding 200 kilobits per second (kbps). Broadband service is typically provided via the ground based wired or fiber telecommunication network. The network, however, may not be available in all areas or may be overloaded or disabled during a disaster. In these instances, emergency responders who subscribe to a satellite broadband service can quickly establish broadband connectivity for their emergency operations. Once the satellite broadband connection is established, emergency responders can connect their personal computer to transfer files, upload and download video, access Web sites and intranet systems, and check e-mail just as they would over ground based services. Some services allow the transmission of streaming video and videoconferencing. A Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone system can also be configured with the satellite broadband service, enabling phone calls and faxes to be sent and received.

In order to provide emergency responders with information on satellite broadband services for their jurisdiction, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Atlantic, has prepared a TechNote for the SAVER Program. The *Transportable Satellite Terminals for Broadband Services TechNote* provides a technology overview, purchase information, performance considerations, and various application for utilizing transportable satellite terminals.

All reports will be placed 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.



Transportable Satellite Terminal for Broadband Service