



**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 responder 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 response equipment; and
- Providing information, in the form of knowledge products, that enables decision-makers and responders to better select, procure, use, and maintain emergency response equipment.

Information provided by the SAVER Program will be shared nationally with the emergency 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@hq.dhs.gov

Visit SAVER on the RKB website:

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

Subsistence and Sanitation Systems

Subsistence and sanitation systems are used to support response and recovery operations in areas without basic infrastructure. These systems may include field kitchens, showers, restrooms, and laundry systems that allow continued operations in areas where these facilities are unavailable due to a remote location or because they have been compromised.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right subsistence and sanitation systems for their operational needs, the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development, and Engineering Center (NSRDEC) prepared a series of documents for the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program. The *Subsistence and Sanitation Systems Technical Guide* provides an overview of the systems and discusses several selection considerations as well as standards and regulations. The *Subsistence and Sanitation Systems Market Survey Report* provides a snapshot of the commercial marketplace.

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.



Mobile Showers Used in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina