Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Highlight

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

SAVER

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 unbiased operational tests 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, 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 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@dhs.gov
Visit the SAVER Web site: https://www.rkb.us/saver

Wireless Call Location Services

Approximately 50 percent of 9-1-1 calls originate from wireless phones, creating new challenges for emergency responders who rely upon the Enhanced 9-1-1 (E9-1-1) system to route the emergency calls to the closest Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). When a wireless (or cell) phone 9-1-1 call is made, the automated caller location information is provided to a PSAP operator, allowing the caller and operator to concentrate on the purpose of the call. The PSAP operator uses this information to direct emergency responders to the scene as quickly as possible.

The *Wireless Call Location Services TechNote* provides information on wireless call location services (figure 1) features, and provides an overview of the technology's capabilities, and operational usage.

Reports are placed on the SAVER Web site (https://www.rkb.us/saver) as they become available. Information regarding other technologies being evaluated in the SAVER Program can also be found on the Web site.
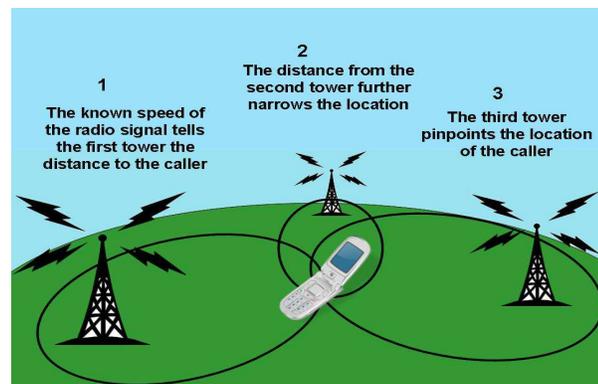

Figure 1. Wireless Call Location Services