



**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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Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:

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

# Highlight

## Multi-Casualty Incident Kits

Multi-Casualty Incident Equipment/Kits are kits that contain the equipment necessary to manage multi-casualty incidents, or incidents involving more than five patients. This equipment typically includes triage tags, tarps, responder vests, clipboards, forms, and medical branch or protocol literature. Because multi-casualty incidents, such as multiple-vehicle incidents, can be prevalent, many responders carry some form of MCIK in their response vehicles. Also, many responders have multiple kits, including medical supply bags, that work together as a system in order to provide comprehensive care to victims.

As a SAVER Program Technical Agent, the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) has conducted a comparative assessment of MCIK for the SAVER Program. Prior to the assessment, SAIC conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Market Survey Report on Multi-Casualty Incident Kits (MCIK)*. A focus group was then conducted to identify equipment selection criteria for the assessment, determine evaluation criteria, and recommend assessment scenarios. The results can be found in the *Focus Group Recommendations on Multi-Casualty Incident Kits (MCIK)* report.

All reports in the series, including the *Assessment Report on Multi-Casualty Incident Kits (MCIK)*, will be located on the on the SAVER Web site (<https://www.rkb.us/SAVER>) as they become available.

Information on other technology being evaluated in the SAVER Program can also be found on the Web site.



**Multi-Casualty Incident Kit**