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 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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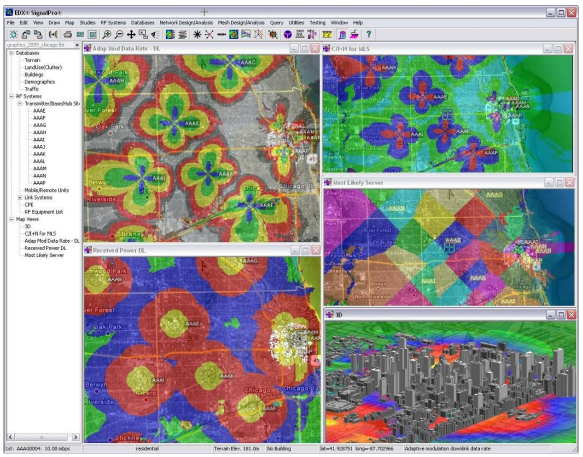
Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:
https://www.rkb.us/saver

Propagation Modeling Software

Propagation modeling software is used in conjunction with communications systems to identify in visual format coverage maps for wireless communications systems to assist in the placement of repeaters and other communications equipment. In addition to being used at incident scenes to perform ad hoc propagation modeling, the products can also be used in preparedness and planning activities. Specifically, propagation modeling software has been used to plan and deploy communications systems in response to terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other large-scale incidents. Emergency responders; local, state, and federal agencies; and private utility, manufacturing, and transportation companies are common users of this technology.

As a SAVER Program Technical Agent, the Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Justice and Safety Center (JSC) conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Market Survey Report on Propagation Modeling Software*.

All reports in this series, including the *Propagation Modeling Software Application Note*, will be located in the SAVER section of the RKB Web site (https://www.rkb.us/SAVER) as they become available. Information on other technologies being evaluated by the SAVER Program can also be found on the Web site.



Propagation Modeling Software User Interface