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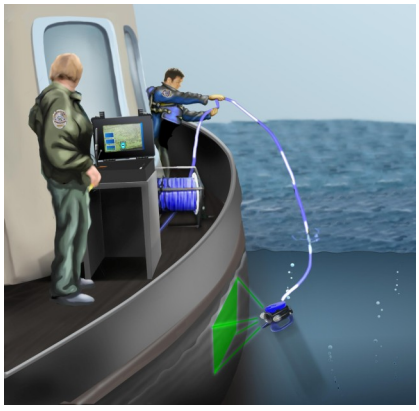
Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:
https://www.rkb.us/saver

Remotely Operated Vehicles for Underwater Inspection

When circumstances prevent a dive team from entering the water and conducting an inspection, remotely operated vehicle (ROV) systems equipped with underwater imaging technology can be used instead. These systems can also be used in conjunction with a dive team, and often allow divers to complete an operation quicker than they could without the system. ROV systems can support both sonar and video technologies simultaneously for side-by-side visual and acoustic image display.

As a SAVER Program Technical Agent, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) Atlantic, conducted a comparative assessment of ROV systems for the SAVER Program. Prior to the assessment, SPAWARSYSCEN Atlantic conducted a market survey in order to provide information on currently available equipment, and produced the *Remotely Operated Vehicles for Underwater Inspection Market Survey Report*. A focus group was then conducted to identify equipment selection criteria for the assessment, determine evaluation criteria, and recommend assessment scenarios. Results can be found in the *Remotely Operated Vehicles for Underwater Inspection Focus Group Recommendations* report.

All reports in this series, including the *Remotely Operated Vehicles for Underwater Inspection Assessment Report*, 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.



ROV System for Underwater Inspection