

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 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, practitionerrelevant, 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?"

To contact the SAVER Program Support Office

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Visit SAVER on the RKB Web site:

https://www.rkb.us/saver

Radiation Dosimeters

Radiation dosimeters are small radiation detectors worn on the body that monitor the personal accumulated dose received by an individual from external radiation sources, not inhaled or ingested radiation. Dosimeters differ from other radiation detectors that are not calibrated to measure the user's personal radiation dose. Workers that are occupationally exposed to radiation (e.g., X-ray technicians or HAZMAT teams) routinely wear dosimeters to ensure that they do not receive doses that exceed annual occupational dose limits.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right radiation dosimeters for their jurisdictions, the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL) conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Radiation Dosimeters for Response and Recovery Market Survey Report*.

This report will be placed in the SAVER section of the RKB Web site (https://www.rkb.us/SAVER) when it becomes available. Information on other technologies being evaluated by the SAVER Program can also be found on the Web site.



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