



**Homeland
Security**

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

Risk Assessment Software

Risk assessment software is used to identify assets; categorize vulnerabilities and threats to those assets; conduct risk analyses in order to estimate the probability and consequences of losing an asset; and to identify mitigation strategies or counter measures that, if implemented, could reduce the overall level of risk to assets. The software also performs return-on-investment analysis by analyzing the costs associated with the implementation of countermeasures and comparing those costs to the potential savings associated with protecting assets.

To assist emergency responders in selecting risk assessment software for their jurisdictions, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) Atlantic has prepared a series of documents for the SAVER Program. SPAWARSYSCEN Atlantic conducted a market survey in order to provide information on commercially available equipment, and produced the *Risk Assessment Software Market Survey Report*. A focus group was also conducted to identify equipment selection criteria, determine evaluation criteria, and recommend assessment scenarios. Results can be found in the *Risk Management Software Focus Group Recommendations* report.

All reports in this series will be placed 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.



Risk Assessment Software