System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER)

Gary Carter
Director, Office of Test, Evaluation and Standards
Science and Technology Directorate

Homeland Security

Science and Technology

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Agenda

- Background
- Responder Participation
- SAVER Process
- Products & Available Resources

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

S&T Mission

- **S&T Mission**
  - Strengthen America's security and resiliency by providing knowledge products and innovative technology solutions for the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE)

- **Achieving the S&T Mission**
  - *Operationally focused* … S&T provides the HSE with strategic and focused technology options and operational process enhancements
  - *Innovative* … S&T seeks innovative, systems-based solutions to complex homeland security problems
  - *Partnerships* … S&T has the technical depth and reach to discover, adapt and leverage technology solutions developed by federal agencies and laboratories, state, local and tribal governments, universities, and the private sector - across the US and internationally

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER

- Current Situation
  - Billions being spent to improve equipment readiness and preparedness through DHS Grant Programs
  - Honest broker information needed
  - DHS established SAVER Program - initially at FEMA transferred to S&T 01/09
- The SAVER Program assists Federal, State, & local responders making procurement decisions
- The SAVER Program:
  - Conducts impartial, practitioner relevant, and operationally oriented assessments and validations of emergency responder equipment
  - Provides information that enables decision makers and responders to better select, procure, use, and maintain emergency responder equipment
- Responder Driven/Responder Focused

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER Technical Agents

- SAVER Program
  - Supported by network of Technical Agents & the SPSO
  - Technical Agents perform assessment and verification activities
- SAVER Program Technical Agents include:

  DHS National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL)

  Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) Atlantic

  Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)

  Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) Operated by National Security Technologies, LLC (NSTec), for the Department of Energy (DOE)

  U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development, & Engineering Center (NSRDEC)

  The Justice and Safety Center, Eastern Kentucky University (EKU)

  Texas A&M Engineering/Texas A&M University (TAMU)

  DHS Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP)
- SAVER Program Support Office (SPSO)
  - Administer and Maintain SAVER Section of the RKB and staff SAVER Help Desk
  - Provide technical writing and editing support for all Technical Agents

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Responder Involvement

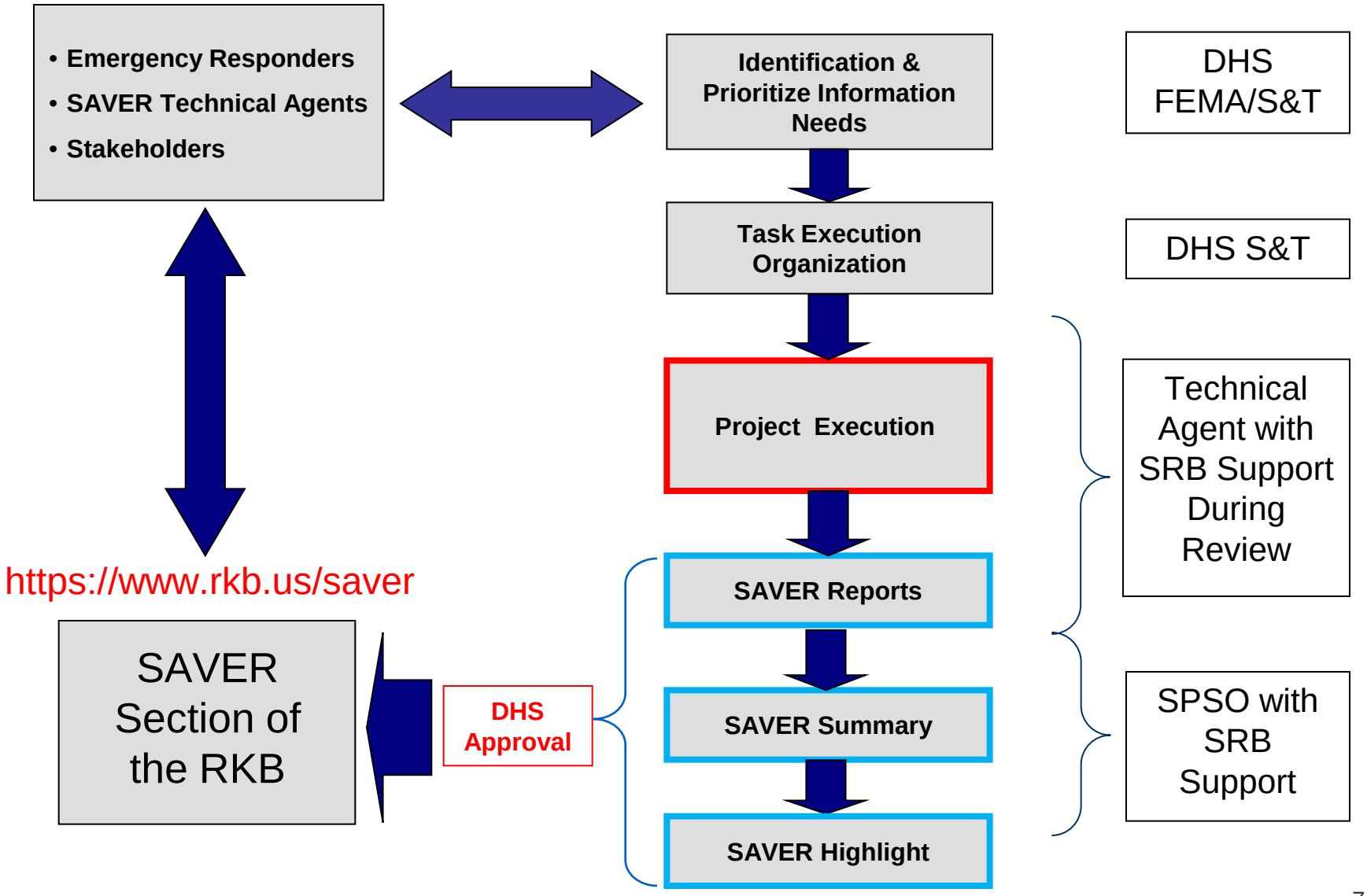
- Focus Group Participants
- Assessment Evaluators
- Publication Peer Reviewers

Responder Driven

Responder Focused

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER Process



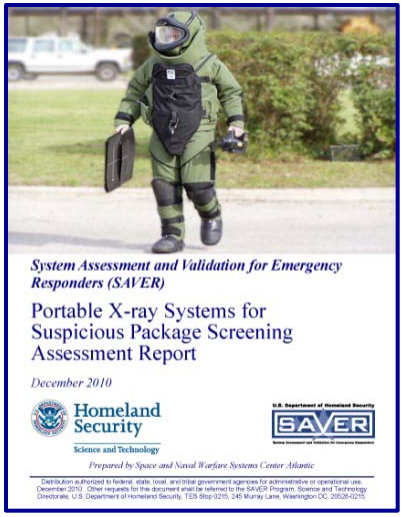
Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER Project Execution

~ 6 Month Project Execution Process

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Major SAVER Products

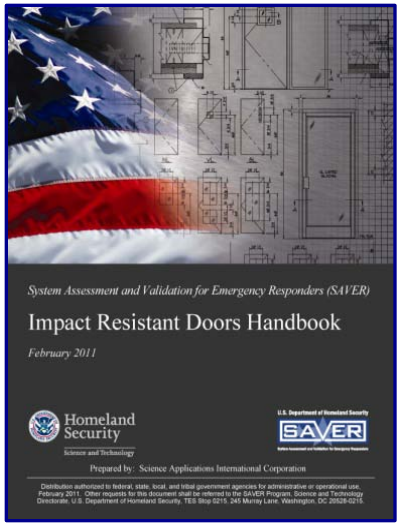


Technical Reports

- Prepared by a SAVER Technical Agent
- Equipment information important to Emergency Responders
- Examples include: Focus Group Reports, **Assessment Reports,** Market Surveys, etc.

SAVER Summary

- Short 5 to 10 page Report
- Summarizes a SAVER Assessment Report
- Written in easy to understand style and format that is useful for the Emergency Responder – "**Consumer Report**" Style



Handbooks

- Prepared by a SAVER Technical Agent
- Reference Document for Emergency Responders
- Covers current technologies, capabilities, and limitation.
- Describes theory, operating principles, and applications.

SAVER TechNotes

- Short two page Report
- Summarizes technical issue important to responders

Uses for SAVER Products

- Individual Products Provide Important and Useful Information
- Used as Responders Make Procurement Decisions
- Used When Preparing for a Competitive Procurement
- Other uses Include Reference Material for Training
  - Market Survey Reports
  - Focus Group Reports
  - Verification Reports
  - Assessment Reports
  - SAVER Summaries
  - Handbooks
  - Guides
  - Application Notes

https://www.rkb.us/saver

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER Accomplishments

- Over 850 Knowledge Products are currently available through SAVER
- Approximately 248 publication approved by S&T since Jan 2009 (date of transfer from FEMA)
- Over 535 individual products assessed since inception of SAVER
- Currently, approximately 4500 publications downloaded/requested from SAVER (www.rkb.us/SAVER) per month.
- SAVER is a proven program that successfully delivers Knowledge Products to the Responder Community so that they may better select, procure, use, and maintain their emergency response equipment

Homeland Security

Science and Technology

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER Accomplishments

Number Publications on the SAVER Web site	**885**
Number of Different Products Assessed (as of 2/1/12)	**535**
CBRNE Operational and Search and Rescue Equipment	195
Personal Protective Equipment	82
Physical Security Enhancement Equipment	57
Detection	60
Information Technology	33
Medical	30
Interoperable Communications Equipment	11
Decontamination	9
Explosive Device Mitigation and Remediation Equipment	24
Inspection and Screening Systems	8
CBRNE Logistics Support Equipment	9
Intervention Equipment	4
Terrorism Incident Prevention Equipment	13
Documents Downloaded/Requested (Nov, Dec, Jan) (~4,500/month)	**14,064**

Homeland Security
Science and Technology

SAVER Accomplishments

	FY12					FY11					FY10	FY09			FY04-FY08	SAVER Total		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	S&T	S&T	FEMA	Total	FEMA	S&T	FEMA	Total
Publications																		
Assessment Reports	5	0			**5**	8	4	4	0	**16**	**8**	10	7	**17**	**51**	34	58	**92**
Focus Group Reports	2	2			**4**	14	2	3	9	**28**	**5**	7	8	**15**	**55**	40	63	**103**
Market Survey Reports	1	0			**1**	13	8	7	3	**31**	**8**	11	10	**21**	**60**	50	70	**120**
Other Products	36	6			**42**	32	19	11	4	**66**	**16**	42	61	**103**	**371**	124	432	**556**
Total	**44**	**8**			**52**	**67**	**33**	**25**	**16**	**141**	**37**	**70**	**86**	**156**	**537**	**248**	**623**	**871**
SAVER Activities																		
Assessments	0				**0**	1	0	12	4	**17**	**16**	8	2	**10**	**62**	41	64	**105**
Focus Groups	0				**0**	6	9	0	0	**15**	**19**	4	3	**7**	**67**	38	70	**108**
Total					**0**	**7**	**9**	**12**	**4**	**32**	**35**	**12**	**5**	**17**	**129**	**79**	**134**	**213**
SAVER Participants																		
Assessments	0				**0**	28	0	67	18	**113**	118	51	13	64	**518**	282	531	813
Focus Groups	0				**0**	44	70	0	0	**114**	151	28	25	53	**626**	293	651	944
Total					**0**	**72**	**70**	**67**	**18**	**227**	**269**	**79**	**38**	**117**	**1144**	**575**	**1182**	**1757**
Products Assessed																		
Individual Products	0				**0**	13	0	44	25	**82**	**67**	30	8	**38**	**348**	179	356	**535**
Products by AEL Category	0				**0**	1	0	0	0	**1**	**13**	8	2	**10**	**47**	22	49	**71**