System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER)

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Director, Office of Test, Evaluation and Standards
Science and Technology Directorate
Agenda

- Background
- Responder Participation
- SAVER Process
- Products & Available Resources
S&T Mission

• S&T Mission
  o 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
  o *Operationally focused* … S&T provides the HSE with strategic and focused technology options and operational process enhancements
  o *Innovative* … S&T seeks innovative, systems-based solutions to complex homeland security problems
  o *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
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
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
Responder Involvement

- Focus Group Participants
- Assessment Evaluators
- Publication Peer Reviewers

Responder Disciplines:
- Law Enforcement
- Fire Service
- Emergency Management
- Emergency Medical Services
- HAZMAT
- Hospitals
- Public Works
- Public Health
- Public Safety Communications
- Public Officials

Responder Driven
Responder Focused
SAVER Process

- Emergency Responders
- SAVER Technical Agents
- Stakeholders

Identification & Prioritize Information Needs

Task Execution Organization

Project Execution

SAVER Reports

SAVER Summary

SAVER Highlight

https://www.rkb.us/saver

DHS S&T

DHS FEMA/S&T

Technical Agent with SRB Support During Review

SPSO with SRB Support
SAVER Project Execution

~ 6 Month Project Execution Process

1. Need Identified
2. Conduct Market Survey
3. Conduct Focus Group
4. Develop Assessment Plan
5. Conduct SAVER Assessment
6. Analyze Assessment Results
7. Produce SAVER Reports
**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

**SAVER TechNotes**
- Short two page Report
- Summarizes technical issue important to responders

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

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

https://www.rkb.us/saver
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
## SAVER Accomplishments

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| Documents Downloaded/Requested (Nov, Dec, Jan) (~4,500/month) | 14,064 |
## SAVER Accomplishments

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