



# FEMA

# Highlight

U.S. Department of Homeland Security



System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) Program to assist emergency responders making procurement decisions. 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 U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Authorized Equipment List (AEL). The SAVER Program mission includes:

- Conducting impartial, practitioner-relevant, and 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-saving and cost-saving asset to FEMA, 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 the SAVER website:  
<https://saver.fema.gov>

## Portable Pumps for Flood Management

Flooding can occur for a number of reasons, including storm surges, heavy rains, snow melt, ice-jams, and failure of water control infrastructures, such as storm water systems, levees, and dams. Auxiliary pumps are not a substitute for proper flood control infrastructure design and advance mitigation of flood hazards, but they can be used to assist in the removal of water when flooding does occur. For example, temporary berms and sandbags are sometimes used for protecting neighborhoods and critical infrastructures, such as water system lift stations, community shelters, fire stations, police stations, or hospitals. Portable pumps can be used for removing water seepage and to help maintain the structural integrity of these protective barriers.

To assist emergency responders in selecting the right portable pump for their jurisdiction, the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, (SPAWARSCEN), Atlantic, has prepared a series of documents for the SAVER Program. The *Portable and Mobile Pumps Used for Flood Management TechNote* details the types of portable pumps, advantages and disadvantages, and performance considerations. The *Portable Pumps for Flood Management Market Survey Report* provides a snapshot of the current commercial marketplace for portable pumps.

All reports will be placed on the SAVER website (<https://saver.fema.gov>) as they become available. Information on other technologies can also be found on the website.



**Portable and mobile pumps are used for flood response in Granite Falls, Minnesota**  
 (Ken Gardner/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)