



FEMA

# 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. The SAVER Program conducts unbiased operational tests 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, 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 the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 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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<https://saver.fema.gov>

## Assessment of the LIMOR and QuickStep Ladders

The U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center (NATICK) was tasked by the Marine Corps to evaluate ladders that would "provide the soldier/Marine with the capability to get to a second story window with the objective of getting on top of buildings, or to adjacent buildings." NATICK worked with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's SAVER Program to produce a summarized version of the entire report in order to share the learned information with the emergency responder community.

NATICK evaluated two commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) ladders, the LIMOR and the QuickStep Ladder (Figure 1 and 2). Both ladders are designed to carry three persons climbing on it simultaneously when it is leaning against a wall and inclined at an angle of up to 30 degrees from the vertical position. In addition, both ladders fold up and are light enough to be carried by an individual.

*The Assessment of the LIMOR and QuickStep Ladders—SAVER Summary* is available on the SAVER website (<https://saver.fema.gov>). Information on other technology being evaluated in the SAVER Program can also be found on the website.



**Figure 1 and 2. Assessment of LIMOR and QuickStep Ladders**

SAVER is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Systems Support Division.