



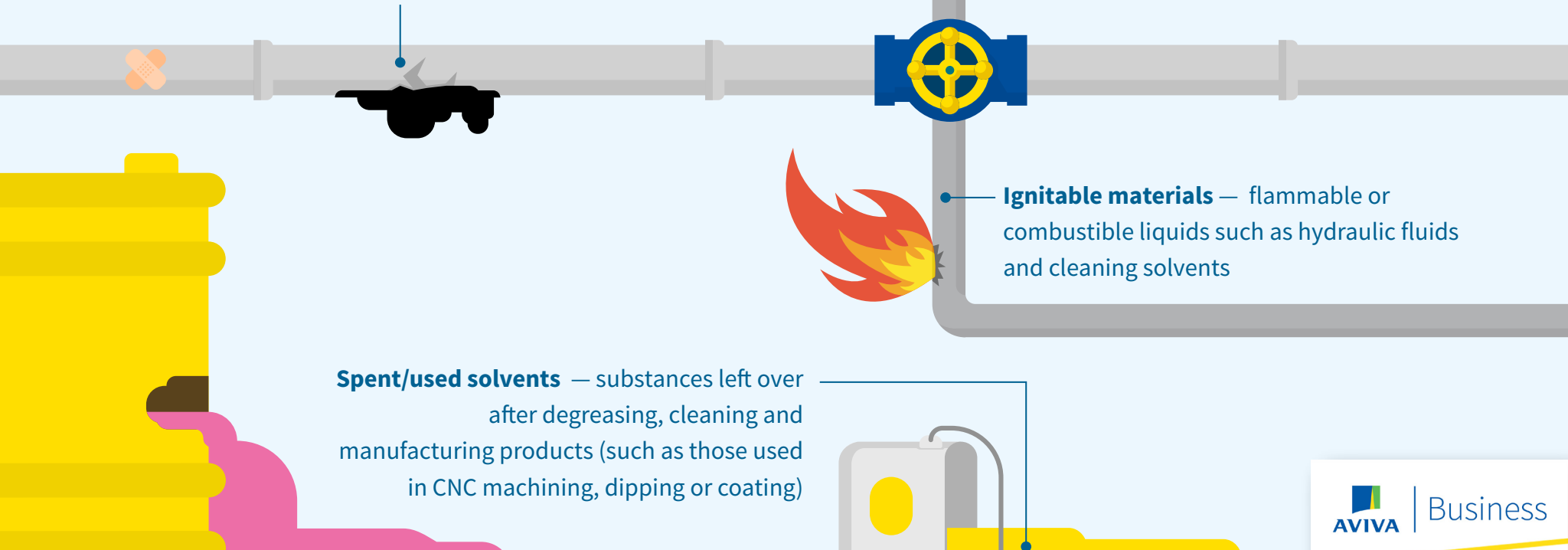
## 5 things you need to know about metal waste management

Metal manufacturers produce a number of by-products that are specific to their operations. By implementing proper waste management procedures, metal manufacturers can ensure they are meeting environmental compliance regulations and are also protecting their businesses against additional risks such as theft. Here are five insights to help your business implement responsible pollution and waste management practices.

# Manufacturing by-products

Processes involved in the metal manufacturing industry produce various wastes:

**Wastewater** — as the result of processes involving the use of water for removing residue, grease and other contaminants. Strong acids/alkaline can be found in wastewater and are generated as a result of fabrication and forming



# Hazardous waste disposal

Materials determined to be corrosive, flammable or inherently toxic are typically classified as hazardous waste and need to be properly disposed of. Metal manufacturers should consider employing third-party companies to dispose of hazardous waste, as they can offer the following:



# On-site storage

Your company may need to keep hazardous waste products on site until they can be safely transferred elsewhere. If you are storing these materials on site, follow all safety regulations, which include the following:

Use only approved containers and industry-accepted storage arrangements

Ensure that products are properly labelled and secured

Have a secondary containment site in case of an emergency

Store copies of all Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) on site and keep them easily accessible

Keep appropriate safety items in place, including spill kits, fire extinguishers and storage cabinets

# Metal scrap solution

One of the most efficient and common ways to deal with metal scraps is to sell them to another company and treat scrap metal as a revenue source. The following advice is helpful when choosing a metal recycler:

Ensure that recyclers provide complete records of all transactions with your business

Confirm that recyclers use metal analysis equipment such as a spectrometer to verify the type and grading of metal(s) being recycled

Know the current market price so that your business gets a fair return



# Theft of by-product metals

As the demand for metals, such as copper and zinc, continues to rise, the supply for these metals is decreasing. This demand puts metal manufacturers at greater risk of theft, thereby making it crucial they establish protocols to protect their business. Here are some ways to help protect your premises:



Install video surveillance equipment (CCTV) to monitor all outdoor storage on the premises



Control access to every location where appropriate metal scraps are being stored



Install visible signage stating that all thefts or attempted thefts will be reported to law enforcement



Establish regularly scheduled pick-up or delivery of metal waste material



Install a centrally monitored burglar alarm system that will immediately send an alert if there is an intrusion of the building

Ensuring your company consistently practices proper handling, storage security, and disposal of hazardous waste material will reduce the risk of pollution and confirm your operation as a responsible metal manufacturing business.

# Insurance coverage

Your insurance broker is a valuable source of information for improving operational risk management within your business.



Contact your broker for additional information or for any questions you have about protecting your business. If you don't have a broker, use our **Find a Broker** tool to find one in your area today.

## Sources

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