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## AUTO BODY/COLLISION REPAIR GUIDANCE On-Site Solvent/Thinner Recycler Systems

**Hazardous waste determinations of all wastes are the responsibility of the generator.**

Used solvent/thinner combined with paint waste is usually the largest hazardous waste stream in the auto body/collision repair sector. The waste is generated when cleaning spray guns either manually or using a partially or fully enclosed spray gun cleaning equipment.

Approximately 70 percent to 80 percent of the solvent/thinner can be reprocessed and reused through an on-site solvent recycling system. Shops that use on-site solvent/thinner recycling systems can save money from reduced material and waste disposal costs. If a shop paints approximately 150 parts/cars a year, the estimated saving is between \$200-\$400/year for disposal, transport and material costs.

1. Review material safety data sheets (MSDS) of solvent/thinner.
2. Compare ingredients that are 10 percent or more on MSDS to Env-Hw 402.06 Generic Industrial Process Wastes to determine the waste code. Most likely the waste code will be F003 and/or F005.

F003: Xylene, acetone, ethyl acetate, ethyl benzene, ethyl ether, methyl isobutyl ketone, n-butyl-alcohol, cyclohexanone, and methanol.

F005: Toluene, methyl ethyl ketone, carbon disulfide, isobutanol, pyridine, benzene, 2-ethoxyethanol, and 2-nitropropane.

For example, waste solvent/thinner that is generated from cleaning of spray guns would be F003 hazardous waste. The waste solvent/thinner can have more than one waste code.

3. Manage the "puck" or sludge that is created through the recycling system as an F-listed hazardous waste.

There is no test to determine if this waste solvent/thinner is hazardous or non-hazardous. The "puck" or sludge can not be thrown out in the trash.

If the generator changes their product line or if the product formula changes, the hazardous waste determination must be completed again.

For questions on hazardous waste determinations, contact the Hazardous Waste Compliance at (603) 271-2942 or [hwcomp@des.nh.gov](mailto:hwcomp@des.nh.gov).