



“ONE MAN’S JUNK IS ANOTHER MAN’S TREASURE”

Dan Garvin, Kent Garvin, Marty Garvin

There's more going on than meets the eye at Colorado Iron & Metal, Inc. Behind that mild-mannered exterior of the 4000 square foot building that looks out to East Mulberry, there's a seamless operation that brought in \$9 million dollars in sales last year by recycling 17 million pounds of scrap metal, selling new steel and welding supplies, as well as offering custom fabrication services.

The primary business is the recycling and recycling services and Colorado Iron & Metal has that down to a science. "One man's junk is another man's treasure," confirms Colorado Iron & Metal President Kent Garvin. "The value of scrap metal today is at historic highs because of the export demand. We ship all over the world. East Asia, the Pacific Rim, China, and Japan are all buying tremendous amounts of scrap iron to feed their infrastructure expansion and growth. India and South America are also big buyers."

Individuals or companies can bring their metal scrap to Colorado Iron & Metal and they will buy it. For those larger jobs, roll-offs, containers or bins are also available. "We have the largest variety and size of containers in Northern Colorado," Garvin says.

The materials are processed on site by shearing, chopping, stripping, baling, and upgrading the scrap into marketable packages. "For example, we might take insulated wire and remove insulation so that just the copper is left."

Colorado Iron & Metal provides metal recycling services for the Larimer County landfill. "We reclaim the hazardous wastes from refrigerated appliances. We're certified and licensed by the State of Colorado to dispose of those hazardous wastes." For refrigerated units, a \$10 fee is charged to cover cost of the hazardous waste disposal. However, Garvin says they'll buy other appliances such as ovens and cooktops.

A second aspect to the business provides new steel, aluminum, brass, copper and stainless steel to retail customers as well as contractors and manufacturers. "Our niche is 'less than length.'" Garvin says. "Those metals are usually produced in 20 to 24 foot lengths, so our slogan is 'METAL THE WAY YOU WANT IT - ANY LENGTH YOU WANT IT.'"

And last, but certainly not least is the metal fabrication part of the business that was added in 2000. The "Fab Shop" works wonders with metals, offering custom design for everything from fences and railings, outdoor kitchens and artistic images. What separates Colorado Iron & Metal from other fabrication shops is the top grade, computer-operated metal cutting equipment used in the fabrication, Garvin explains. "It's not available at a lot of places. We have water jet cutting that allows us to do precision designs and high definition cutting. We can cut a variety of materials with water: everything from metal and steel to glass, plastic, and wood. We've even worked with ceramics and stone. We can cut any design and shape," he says.

Colorado Iron & Metal can create elaborate designs, from decorative to structural, even architectural. "Our fabricating focus is custom fabrication so you can bring your design, idea, or even just your vision and we can craft whatever it is you want."

In fact, the fabricators at Colorado Iron & Metal have completed a portfolio of jobs from floodgates for a hydroelectric project to high-end custom decorative iron for residential use. But they can also do your small project. "If the swivel goes out in your bar chair and needs to be welded, we can fix that, too."

Backed by the scope of the entire operation of Colorado Iron and Metal, Garvin can easily say with certainty, "Whatever you need, we can provide."



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No. of employees: 32

Top executive:
Kent Garvin, President

Primary service:

- New Steel Distributor
- Metal Fabrication
- Scrap Metal Recycling

