



February 2006

Cost Considerations for Prepainted Sheet Steel Cladding

This Fact Sheet has been written to describe some of the factors that affect the cost of prepainted sheet steel cladding products. The most significant factors are: colour, paint system, order quantity, Fabricator's inventory and profile selection. Recognition of the impact of these factors can help you select a prepainted sheet steel cladding system to fit the aesthetic and durability requirements of your project, and still stay within a budget.

Colour

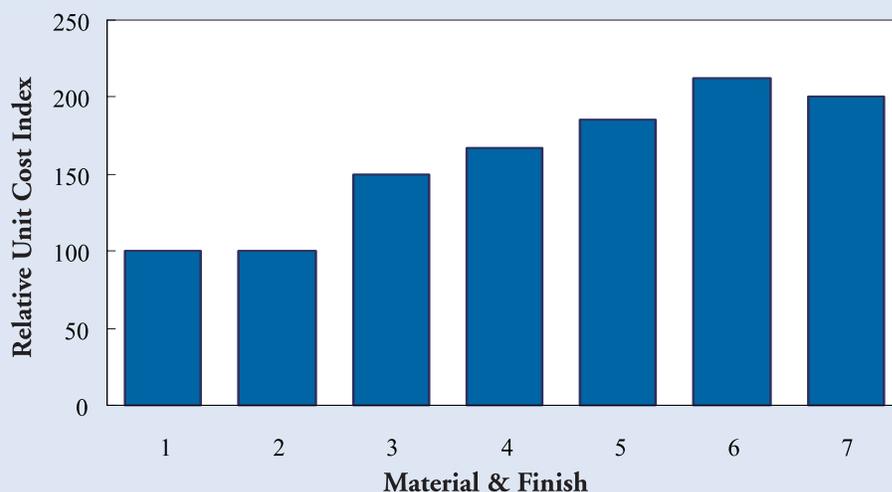
Probably one of the most important considerations for your prepainted steel cladding selection is colour. In a move at being more competitive, while offering effective customer service, the pricing structure for prepainted sheet steel is now based on a "price by colour" system. It is important to recognize that prices can vary considerably from one colour to another. Generally, earth tones are offered in the lower price range while the brighter

colours are more expensive. The different colours require different components, which are changed to provide a consistent level of performance for all colours within the chosen paint system. The use of more expensive accent or contrasting colours to compliment a less expensive colour will provide visual variety for the project and help control the total cost.

Paint System

Colour selection is important, but it is also important to realize that the same colour may be available in different paint systems. Currently, the most common paint systems in Canada are the 8000+ Series, Colorite™ HMP, 10 000 Series, Metallic Series, Elite Series and Barrier Series. Each of these paint systems meets a different performance specification and have different expected service lives. The nature of the environment will determine the proper selection of the paint system. For a general comparison of the relative costs of these different systems, see the figure below.

Relative Cost Guide - Material and Finishes



Note: Relative Cost is based on 40,000 lbs order quantity

1. Unpainted Galvanized
2. Unpainted Galvalume and Galvalume Plus
3. 8000+ Series & HMP - Standard Colours
4. 8000+ Series & HMP - Contemporary Colours
5. 10000 Series
6. Metallic & Elite Series
7. Barrier Series

Order Quantity

The amount of prepainted sheet steel product needed for the job will also affect the project costs. Normally costs are higher, on a per unit basis, for smaller order quantities that are not normally stocked. These costs reflect the higher cost for steel being purchased in smaller quantities, minimum steel coil order requirements, and the set-up costs for the manufacturer.

Fabricators Inventory

The availability of your colour selection in the Fabricator's inventory will also create cost variations. A Fabricator does not stock all colours and paint systems, but will inventory a selection. Any colour and system can be ordered at a premium, but there will often be a minimum order quantity requirement and longer delivery times. Check with the Fabricator on availability of the profile, colour and paint system.

Profile Selection

In addition to the variations in the cost of the basic prepainted sheet steel, there is a wide range of panel profiles and cladding systems also available. Cladding systems range from the more expensive architectural concealed fastener panels to the economical shallow ribbed corrugated sheeting. The sheet steel material thickness is also varied to meet the structural requirements for the cladding system and has a bearing on the final material cost.

For More Information

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