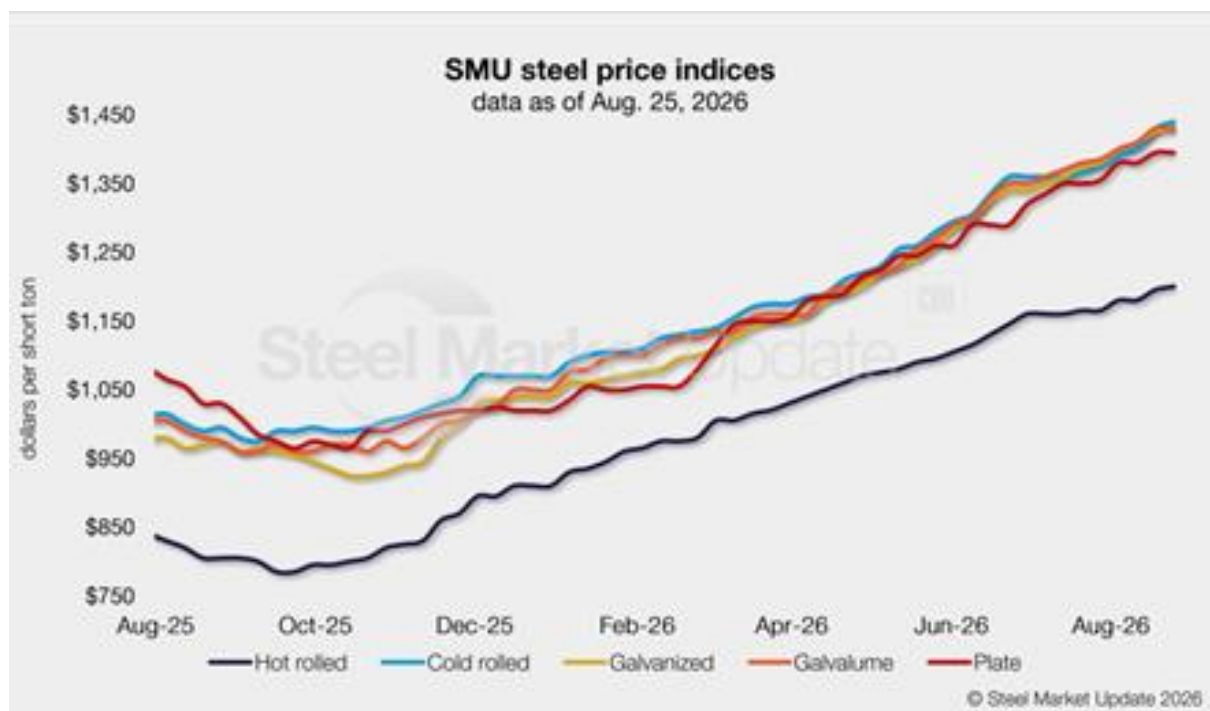


As we head into September, the steel market continues to move in the same direction we have been communicating throughout 2026: costs are rising, supply remains tight, and planning continues to matter. There is very little relief showing up on either cost or supply.

The latest data reinforces this trend. Galvanized CRU reached **\$1,440/ton** last week, up another \$14/ton and now **61% above its October 29, 2025 low of \$895/ton**. Galvanized mill lead times remain near nine weeks, light flat-rolled imports into the U.S. remain approximately **47% below March 2025 levels**, and coating extras are scheduled to increase another \$5/ton for Q4.

The chart below puts the movement into perspective. What began late last year has developed into a sustained rise across the major flat-rolled steel categories. Galvanized, cold rolled, hot rolled and plate have all moved materially higher, with no reversal developing as we enter September.



These cost pressures are continuing into the fall. In response, ClarkDietrich is announcing a nationwide price increase effective October 1. The announcement is attached for reference.

For projects already in the pipeline, the practical impact is important. Pricing established during budgeting or bid likely no longer represent material costs when a project reaches award and release. The longer the time between those points, the greater the exposure to changes in replacement cost and availability.

Heading into fall, the focus should remain on accurate schedules, current project information, and clear communication of material requirements. This gives everyone involved greater ability to manage changing costs and availability as projects move forward.

