# The 2 types · side-by-side

Distributor-facing reading. Each row gives best-for, key trade-off, capacity, price band, and how many of SPC's tier slots carry an option at that product type.

| PRODUCT TYPE | BEST FOR | KEY TRADE-OFF | TYPICAL CAPACITY | PRICE BAND | BRANDS SPC CARRIES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Discharge Check Valve**<br>ONE-WAY FLOW · COMPRESSOR → RECEIVER | **The $100 part that protects the $25,000 air-end.**<br>Every compressor in the territory. Reciprocating compressors (prevents backflow that pushes oil up through the intake on shutdown) and rotary-screw compressors (prevents reverse-rotation events that destroy the air-end). Also at the receiver inlet on multi-compressor systems where one machine can backflow into another. | TEMPERATURE RATING MUST MATCH THE DISCHARGE<br>Reciprocating discharge runs 300–400°F and requires a hot-discharge valve (Conrader piloted to 400°F, in-line / in-tank to 450°F). A general-service 225°F valve on a reciprocating discharge fails from thermal degradation within months. Rotary-screw discharge at 180–210°F tolerates general-service ratings. | 1/4" – 2" NPT typical · 20–60+ SCFM body sizes<br>standalone · combination (check + pilot + unloader) units | $ – $$ | 2 / 5 · CONRADER + KINGSTON |
| **Safety Relief Valve**<br>ASME SECTION VIII · CODE-MANDATORY ON EVERY PRESSURE VESSEL | **Non-discretionary. The line on every quote.**<br>Every air receiver, every aftercooler vessel, every compressor discharge ahead of a shutoff. Two positions: receiver-mounted (1/2"–3" NPT, larger SCFM rating, sized to vessel MAWP) and compressor-head/discharge-side (1/8"–3/8" NPT, smaller SCFM, set 10–25 PSI above compressor cut-out). | CODE-SPEC OR IT'S NOT A SAFETY VALVE<br>ASME UV stamp + National Board number required on every valve quoted for a code vessel. Set pressure at or below MAWP; relieving capacity at or above the compressor's full SCFM. A non-ASME "lookalike" fails inspection, voids insurance, and is a five-figure-per-violation OSHA citation. Annual lift test + 3–5 year recertification cycle. | 1/8" – 3" NPT · 100/125/150/175/200/250 PSI common<br>brass standard · stainless for wash-down/food | $ – $$ | 2 / 5 · CONRADER + KINGSTON |

Reading the brand bench column: the bar shows how many of SPC's tier slots (Industry Leader · Emerging · Economical · adjacent) carry an option at that product type. A narrow bench here is by design: safety-side valves are code-driven, not tier-shoppable. Conrader anchors the compressor-service-grade check valves (with hot-discharge ratings to 450°F) and the small-body compressor-head relief valves; Kingston anchors the receiver-mounted ASME relief and discharge-line check valves at the sizes a fabrication or service shop quotes from stock. There is no economical tier in this category: non-ASME valves are not a legal substitute.