The 1 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
IO-Link Valve Terminal SMART MANIFOLD · FIELDBUS GATEWAY · PER-VALVE DIAGNOSTICS	**The IIoT pivot point, diagnostics + wiring collapse.** Predictive-maintenance programs, smart-factory rollouts, MES / SCADA integration. Streams per-valve cycle counts, coil currents, supply voltage, manifold temperature, and (where integrated) downstream pressure back to the PLC over one fieldbus cable instead of 32 wires for a 16-valve machine.	PROTOCOL-SPECIFIC · NOT SAFETY-RATED Gateway firmware is locked to one fieldbus (EtherNet/IP, PROFINET, EtherCAT, etc.): a PROFINET unit cannot be reconfigured to EtherNet/IP in the field. Wrong-protocol orders are returns. NOT a substitute for safety-rated pneumatics in ISO 13849 PLd/PLe applications.	Up to ~32 stations · 20-30% spare plan EtherNet/IP · PROFINET · EtherCAT · etc.	$$$	1 / 5 · SMC (EX600)

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. SMC is the integrator default for the IO-Link gateway (EX600), a narrow bench where the technical requirement maps to a single anchor brand. The proportional pressure regulator is listed as a Product Type in this category without a curated comparison row yet.