Forklift Mast Chain

Mast Chains - Leaf Chains have various functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are used for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and lift truck masts, and as balancers between head and counterweight in some machine gadgets. Leaf chains are at times also called Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Made of a simple pin construction and link plate, steel leaf chains is identified by a number that refers to the lacing of the links and the pitch. The chains have specific features like for instance high tensile strength for every section area, which allows the design of smaller devices. There are A- and B- kind chains in this series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series have the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be powered utilizing sprockets.

Handling and Selection

In roller chains, the link plates have a higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive stress of press fits, yet the leaf chain just contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most permissible tension is low and the tensile strength is high. Whenever handling leaf chains it is important to check with the manufacturer's instruction manual to be able to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety guards all the time. It is a good idea to exercise extreme caution and utilize extra safety measures in applications where the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the use of a lot more plates. As the utilization of more plates does not improve the utmost permissible tension directly, the number of plates can be restricted. The chains require frequent lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Utilizing a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently suggested for most applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times in a day or if the chain speed is more than 30m for each minute, it will wear really fast, even with constant lubrication. Therefore, in either of these situations using RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be utilized under certain situations such as where there are no shock loads or if wear is not a huge issue. Make positive that the number of cycles does not exceed 100 each day. The BL-type will be better suited under other conditions.

If a chain utilizing a lower safety factor is chosen then the stress load in parts will become higher. If chains are used with corrosive elements, then they could become fatigued and break somewhat easily. Doing regular maintenance is really important when operating under these kinds of conditions.

The outer link or inner link kind of end link on the chain would determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers, but the user normally provides the clevis. An improperly made clevis can decrease the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the manufacturer. Refer to the ANSI standard or phone the maker.