Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chains - Leaf Chains comprise several applications and are regulated by ANSI. They are meant for tension linkage, forklift masts and for low-speed pulling, and as balancers between counterweight and head in some machine tools. Leaf chains are occasionally likewise called Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

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

Handling and Selection

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates have higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, while in leaf chains, only two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the utmost permissible tension is low. When handling leaf chains it is essential to confer with the manufacturer's manual to be able to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures at all times. It is a good idea to exercise extreme care and utilize extra safety guards in functions where the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of more plates. For the reason that the utilization of more plates does not improve the utmost permissible tension directly, the number of plates may be limited. The chains need frequent lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, generating a very high bearing pressure. Using a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is normally suggested for the majority of applications. If the chain is cycled more than one thousand times day after day or if the chain speed is over 30m for each minute, it will wear really quick, even with continual lubrication. Hence, in either of these situations utilizing RS Roller Chains will be more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must just be utilized under certain situations such as if wear is not a huge concern, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not go over a hundred daily. The BL-type would be better suited under different conditions.

If a chain using a lower safety factor is chosen then the stress load in components will become higher. If chains are utilized with corrosive elements, then they may become fatigued and break somewhat easily. Doing regular maintenance is really vital if operating under these kinds of conditions.

The kind of end link of the chain, whether it is an outer link or inner link, determines the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or likewise called Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers but often, the user provides the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis can lessen the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the manufacturer. Check the ANSI standard or contact the manufacturer.