Forklift Mast Chain

Mast Chains - Used in various applications, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They could be used for lift truck masts, as balancers between counterweight and heads in several machine tools, and for tension linkage and low-speed pulling. Leaf chains are sometimes also known as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Leaf chains are actually steel chains using a simple pin construction and link plate. The chain number refers to the pitch and the lacing of the links. The chains have specific features like for instance high tensile strength for every section area, that enables the design of smaller machines. There are B- and A+ type chains in this particular series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series have the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be powered using sprockets.

Handling and Selection

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, yet the leaf chain only contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most permissible tension is low and the tensile strength is high. When handling leaf chains it is vital to confer with the manufacturer's instruction booklet to be able to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety measures always. It is a great idea to exercise extreme caution and use extra safety measures in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Utilizing a lot more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. For the reason that this does not enhance the maximum acceptable tension directly, the number of plates utilized could be restricted. The chains need frequent lubrication in view of the fact that the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is often advised for nearly all 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. Thus, in either of these conditions utilizing RS Roller Chains will be a lot more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must just be used under particular conditions like when wear is really not a big concern, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not go over 100 on a daily basis. The BL-type would be better suited under different conditions.

The stress load in parts would become higher if a chain utilizing a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is even utilized amongst corrosive situations, it can easily fatigue and break really fast. Performing regular maintenance is really vital when operating under these kinds of conditions.

The inner link or outer link type of end link on the chain would determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or otherwise known as Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers, but the user usually provides the clevis. A wrongly made clevis can lessen the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the producer. Refer to the ANSI standard or call the maker.