Forklift Mast Chain

Mast Chains - Leaf Chains comprise several functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are utilized for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and lift truck masts, and as balancers between counterweight and head in certain machine tools. Leaf chains are at times even called Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

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

Handling and Selection

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates have higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive stress of press fits, whereas in leaf chains, only two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the most allowable tension is low. While handling leaf chains it is vital to check with the manufacturer's instruction manual to be able to ensure the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety guards at all times. It is a better idea to carry out utmost care and utilize extra safety guards in functions where the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Using more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. As this does not improve the most permissible tension directly, the number of plates used could be limited. The chains need regular lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, producing an extremely high bearing pressure. Using a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is often advised for most applications. If the chain is cycled more than one thousand times daily or if the chain speed is over 30m per minute, it would wear really quick, even with continuous lubrication. So, in either of these situations the use of RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be used under certain situations like for instance where there are no shock loads or when wear is not really a big issue. Make positive that the number of cycles does not go over one hundred daily. The BL-type would be better suited under other conditions.

The stress load in parts will become higher if a chain using a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is even utilized amongst corrosive situations, it can easily fatigue and break very fast. Performing frequent maintenance is important if operating under these kinds of situations.

The inner link or outer link kind of end link on the chain would determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or Clevis pins are made by manufacturers, but the user normally provides the clevis. A wrongly constructed clevis could reduce the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the manufacturer. Refer to the ANSI standard or call the manufacturer.