Forklift Mast Chain

Forklift Mast Chain - Leaf Chains comprise different applications and are regulated by ANSI. They are intended for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and lift truck masts, and as balancers between counterweight and head in certain machine devices. Leaf chains are sometimes also known as 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 example high tensile strength for every section area, which allows the design of smaller devices. There are B- and A+ kind chains in this particular series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series contain the same pitch as RS60. Finally, these chains cannot be powered using sprockets.

Selection and Handling

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates have higher fatigue resistance due to 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 acceptable tension is low. If handling leaf chains it is important to check with the manufacturer's instruction booklet to be able to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures at all times. It is a good idea to apply utmost care and utilize extra safety measures in applications where the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of more plates. In view of the fact that the use of a lot more plates does not enhance the maximum acceptable tension directly, the number of plates could be restricted. The chains require frequent lubrication as the pins link directly on the plates, producing an extremely 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 one thousand times daily or if the chain speed is over 30m for every minute, it will wear really quick, even with continual lubrication. Hence, in either of these conditions the use of RS Roller Chains will be more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be utilized under certain situations like for example where there are no shock loads or if wear is not a big concern. Make certain that the number of cycles does not go beyond a hundred on a daily basis. The BL-type will be better suited under various conditions.

The stress load in parts will become higher if a chain using a lower safety factor is chosen. If the chain is also used among corrosive situations, it could easily fatigue and break really quick. Performing regular maintenance is really important 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 Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers but often, the user supplies the clevis. A wrongly made clevis can reduce the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the manufacturer. Refer to the ANSI standard or contact the maker.