Forklift Mast Chains

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 devices, and for low-speed pulling and tension linkage. Leaf chains are occasionally likewise called Balance Chains.

Construction and Features

Leaf chains are steel chains utilizing a simple link plate and pin construction. The chain number 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, that enables the design of smaller machines. 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 driven utilizing 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, while in leaf chains, just 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 important to confer with the manufacturer's instruction booklet in order to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and use safety guards at all times. It is a good idea to apply utmost care and utilize extra safety measures in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Using a lot more plates in the lacing causes the higher tensile strength. As this does not improve the utmost allowable tension directly, the number of plates used could be restricted. The chains need regular lubrication as the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is normally advised for nearly all applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times on a daily basis or if the chain speed is more than 30m for each minute, it would wear really quick, even with continual lubrication. Therefore, in either of these conditions utilizing RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be utilized under particular situations like where there are no shock loads or if wear is not a huge issue. Be sure that the number of cycles does not go over 100 on a daily basis. The BL-type would be better suited under other situations.

If a chain using a lower safety factor is selected then the stress load in parts will become higher. If chains are utilized with corrosive elements, then they can become fatigued and break rather easily. Doing regular maintenance is really important if 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 typically supplies the clevis. A wrongly constructed clevis could reduce the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the maker. Check the ANSI standard or contact the maker.