Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chain - Used in different functions, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They could be utilized for forklift masts, as balancers between counterweight and heads in some machine devices, and for tension linkage and low-speed pulling. Leaf chains are at times 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 specific features like for instance high tensile strength per section area, that allows the design of smaller devices. There are A- and B- kind chains in this particular series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series contain the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be powered utilizing sprockets.

Handling and Selection

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive stress of press fits, yet the leaf chain only contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the maximum acceptable tension is low and the tensile strength is high. When handling leaf chains it is essential to consult the manufacturer's guidebook in order to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures all the time. It is a better idea to apply extreme care and use extra safety guards in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Utilizing more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. Because this does not enhance the maximum allowable tension directly, the number of plates utilized can be restricted. The chains require regular lubrication as the pins link directly on the plates, generating a very high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently suggested for the majority of applications. If the chain is cycled more than 1000 times in a day or if the chain speed is more than 30m for each minute, it will wear very quick, even with continuous lubrication. Thus, in either of these situations the use of RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

AL type chains are only to be utilized under certain conditions like for example where there are no shock loads or when wear is not really a big problem. Make positive that the number of cycles does not exceed one hundred on a daily basis. The BL-type would be better suited under various conditions.

The stress load in components will become higher if a chain with a lower safety factor is chosen. If the chain is even used amongst corrosive conditions, it can easily fatigue and break very fast. Doing regular maintenance is important if operating under these types 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 provides the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis could decrease the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the manufacturer. Refer to the ANSI standard or contact the producer.