

Forklift Mast Chain

Mast Chain - Utilized in various applications, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They can be utilized for lift truck masts, as balancers between heads and counterweight in several machine devices, and for low-speed pulling and tension linkage. Leaf chains are occasionally also referred to as Balance Chains.

Construction and Features

Made 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 such as high tensile strength for every section area, that allows the design of smaller machines. There are B- and A+ type chains in this series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series include the same pitch as RS60. Finally, these chains cannot be powered using sprockets.

Selection and Handling

In roller chains, the link plates have a higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive tension of press fits, yet the leaf chain just contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most acceptable tension is low and the tensile strength is high. Whenever handling leaf chains it is vital to consult the manufacturer's guidebook to be able to ensure the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety measures at all times. It is a better idea to exercise extreme care and use extra safety guards in functions wherein the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of more plates. As the utilization of more plates does not enhance the most allowable tension directly, the number of plates could be restricted. The chains require frequent lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very 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 more than 30m for each minute, it will wear extremely fast, even with continuous lubrication. Hence, in either of these situations utilizing RS Roller Chains will be much more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be used under particular conditions like for instance where there are no shock loads or if wear is not a big concern. Make certain that the number of cycles does not exceed 100 every day. The BL-type will be better suited under different situations.

If a chain with a lower safety factor is selected then the stress load in components will become higher. If chains are utilized with corrosive elements, then they may become fatigued and break rather easily. Performing frequent maintenance is vital when operating under these kinds of situations.

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