

Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chains - Utilized in various applications, 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 low-speed pulling and tension linkage. Leaf chains are occasionally even called Balance Chains.

Construction and Features

Constructed of a simple pin construction and link plate, steel leaf chains is identified by a number which refers to the pitch and the lacing of the links. The chains have particular features such as high tensile strength for each section area, which enables the design of smaller machines. There are B- and A+ kind chains in this series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series comprise the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be powered with 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 acceptable tension is low. If handling leaf chains it is important to check with the manufacturer's handbook in order to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures at all times. It is a good idea to exercise utmost caution and use extra safety measures in functions where the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Utilizing more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. For the reason that this does not improve the utmost acceptable tension directly, the number of plates utilized can be restricted. The chains require regular lubrication as the pins link directly on the plates, generating an extremely high bearing pressure. Using a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is normally suggested for the majority of applications. If the chain is cycled more than 1000 times daily or if the chain speed is over 30m for each minute, it will wear extremely fast, even with continuous lubrication. Therefore, in either of these situations using RS Roller Chains will be a lot more suitable.

AL type chains are only to be utilized under particular conditions like for instance where there are no shock loads or if wear is not a huge problem. Be positive that the number of cycles does not go beyond 100 every day. The BL-type will be better suited under different situations.

If a chain using a lower safety factor is selected then the stress load in components would become higher. If chains are used with corrosive elements, then they could become fatigued and break rather easily. Performing regular maintenance is important if operating under these kinds of conditions.

The type of end link of the chain, whether it is an inner link or outer link, determines the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or also called Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers but often, the user 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.