

Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chains - Used in different applications, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They could be used for forklift masts, as balancers between heads and counterweight in several machine gadgets, and for low-speed pulling and tension linkage. Leaf chains are occasionally even known as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Leaf chains are steel chains with a simple pin construction and link plate. The chain number refers to the pitch and the lacing of the links. The chains have certain features such as high tensile strength per section area, that enables the design of smaller mechanisms. There are B- and A+ kind chains in this particular series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series include the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be powered with sprockets.

Selection and Handling

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates maintain higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive stress of press fits, whereas in leaf chains, only two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the most permissible tension is low. While handling leaf chains it is essential to confer with the manufacturer's instruction booklet so as to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety guards always. It is a great idea to carry out utmost care and utilize extra safety measures in functions where the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of much more plates. For the reason that the use of more plates does not improve the maximum allowable tension directly, the number of plates can be limited. The chains require frequent lubrication because the pins link directly on the plates, producing a really high bearing pressure. Using a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is often suggested for nearly all applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times day after day or if the chain speed is over 30m per minute, it would wear extremely quick, even with continuous lubrication. Thus, in either of these conditions using RS Roller Chains would be a lot more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must only be utilized under certain conditions like for example if wear is really not a huge concern, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not go over a hundred day after day. The BL-type will be better suited under other conditions.

If a chain using a lower safety factor is selected then the stress load in parts will become higher. If chains are used with corrosive elements, then they could become fatigued and break rather easily. Doing regular maintenance is essential when 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 made by manufacturers but often, the user supplies the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis could decrease the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the producer. Refer to the ANSI standard or get in touch with the producer.