Mast Chains

Forklift Mast Chains - Used in various functions, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They can be utilized for lift truck masts, as balancers between heads and counterweight in some machine devices, and for low-speed pulling and tension linkage. Leaf chains are sometimes even called Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Constructed of a simple pin construction and link plate, steel leaf chains is identified by a number which refers to the lacing of the links and the pitch. The chains have specific features like high tensile strength for every section area, which allows the design of smaller devices. There are B- and A+ type chains in this particular series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series comprise the same pitch as RS60. Finally, these chains cannot be powered using sprockets.

Selection and Handling

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive tension of press fits, yet the leaf chain just has two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most allowable tension is low and the tensile strength is high. Whenever handling leaf chains it is important to check with the manufacturer's handbook to be able to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety guards always. It is a great idea to carry out utmost caution and use extra safety measures in functions where the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of more plates. In view of the fact that the use of a lot more plates does not improve the most acceptable tension directly, the number of plates may be restricted. The chains require frequent lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, producing a really high bearing pressure. Utilizing a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently advised for the majority of applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times in a day or if the chain speed is over 30m for every minute, it will wear very quick, even with constant lubrication. Therefore, in either of these conditions using RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be utilized under particular situations like for instance where there are no shock loads or if wear is not really a huge problem. Be certain that the number of cycles does not exceed a hundred day by day. The BL-type would be better suited under various situations.

If a chain with a lower safety factor is chosen then the stress load in components would become higher. If chains are utilized with corrosive elements, then they can become fatigued and break quite easily. Doing regular maintenance is really vital if operating under these types of conditions.

The type of end link of the chain, whether it is an outer link or inner link, determines the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or otherwise called Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers but usually, the user provides the clevis. An improperly made clevis can reduce the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the maker. Check the ANSI standard or call the producer.