Mast Chains

Forklift Mast Chain - Utilized in various functions, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They can be used for forklift masts, as balancers between counterweight and heads in some machine devices, and for low-speed pulling and tension linkage. Leaf chains are sometimes likewise called Balance Chains.

Construction and Features

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

Selection and Handling

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, yet the leaf chain just contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most permissible tension is low and the tensile strength is high. While handling leaf chains it is essential to check with the manufacturer's catalogue so as to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety measures at all times. It is a better idea to apply utmost caution and use extra safety guards in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Using a lot more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. For the reason that this does not improve the most allowable tension directly, the number of plates utilized may be restricted. The chains need frequent lubrication as the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Utilizing 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 for each minute, it would wear very fast, even with continual lubrication. Hence, in either of these situations using RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must just be used under particular conditions such as if wear is not a huge concern, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not go over a hundred on a daily basis. The BL-type would be better suited under different conditions.

The stress load in components would become higher if a chain with a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is even utilized amongst corrosive situations, it can easily fatigue and break extremely quick. Performing frequent maintenance is important if operating under these kinds of situations.

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