

Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chains - Leaf Chains have several applications and are regulated by ANSI. They are designed for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and lift truck masts, and as balancers between head and counterweight in certain machine gadgets. Leaf chains are at times even known as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

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

Handling and Selection

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates maintain higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, while in leaf chains, only two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the most acceptable tension is low. When handling leaf chains it is essential to check with the manufacturer's instruction booklet in order to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures always. It is a good idea to exercise extreme caution and use extra safety measures in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the use of more plates. As the utilization of a lot more plates does not improve the utmost allowable tension directly, the number of plates could be limited. The chains require regular lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Utilizing a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is normally advised for nearly all applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times daily or if the chain speed is over 30m for each minute, it would wear really quick, even with continual lubrication. Thus, in either of these situations utilizing RS Roller Chains will be much more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must only be utilized under particular situations like for example when wear is really not a huge concern, if there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not exceed one hundred a day. The BL-type would be better suited under various conditions.

The stress load in components would become higher if a chain utilizing a lower safety factor is chosen. If the chain is likewise used among corrosive conditions, it could easily fatigue and break extremely quick. Doing frequent maintenance is important if operating under these kinds 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 Clevis pins are made by manufacturers but often, the user supplies the clevis. A wrongly made clevis can decrease the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the maker. Refer to the ANSI standard or contact the maker.