

Forklift Mast Chain

Mast Chains - Leaf Chains consist of different functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are used for forklift masts, for low-speed pulling and tension linkage, and as balancers between head and counterweight in certain machine gadgets. Leaf chains are sometimes also referred to as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

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

Handling and Selection

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates maintain higher fatigue resistance due to 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 vital to confer with the manufacturer's manual so as to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and use safety guards all the time. It is a great idea to apply utmost care and utilize extra safety measures in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of more plates. Because the utilization of much more plates does not improve the most allowable tension directly, the number of plates could be restricted. The chains need frequent lubrication because the pins link directly on the plates, producing a really high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently advised for most applications. If the chain is cycled more than 1000 times on a daily basis or if the chain speed is more than 30m for every minute, it will wear very rapidly, even with constant lubrication. So, in either of these conditions the use of RS Roller Chains would be much more suitable.

AL type chains are just to be utilized under certain conditions like where there are no shock loads or if wear is not a huge issue. Be sure that the number of cycles does not go over one hundred every day. The BL-type would be better suited under various situations.

The stress load in parts will become higher if a chain using a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is even utilized among corrosive situations, it could easily fatigue and break really fast. Performing frequent maintenance is essential when operating under these kinds of situations.

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 otherwise called Clevis pins are made by manufacturers but normally, the user supplies the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis could reduce the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the maker. Refer to the ANSI standard or contact the manufacturer.