

Forklift Mast Chain

Mast Chain - Leaf Chains have different functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are meant for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and forklift masts, and as balancers between counterweight and head in several machine tools. Leaf chains are sometimes even known as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Made of a simple link plate and pin construction, steel leaf chains is identified by a number which refers to the lacing of the links and the pitch. The chains have particular features like for instance high tensile strength for every section area, that allows the design of smaller machines. There are A- and B- type chains in this series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series include the same pitch as RS60. Finally, these chains cannot be powered 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, just two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the maximum allowable tension is low. When handling leaf chains it is essential to confer with the manufacturer's instruction booklet so as to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures all the time. It is a better idea to carry out utmost caution and utilize extra safety guards in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Utilizing much more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. Since this does not enhance the utmost acceptable tension directly, the number of plates used may be restricted. The chains require frequent lubrication for the reason that the pins link directly on the plates, producing an extremely high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently suggested 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 would wear very rapidly, even with continual lubrication. Hence, in either of these conditions utilizing RS Roller Chains would be a lot more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must only be utilized under certain situations like if wear is really not a big concern, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not go over 100 a day. The BL-type would be better suited under various situations.

The stress load in components will become higher if a chain utilizing a lower safety factor is chosen. If the chain is also used amongst corrosive conditions, it could easily fatigue and break really fast. Performing frequent maintenance is important if operating under these kinds of conditions.

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 also 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 manufacturer. Check the ANSI standard or contact the manufacturer.