

Forklift Mast Chains

Mast Chain - Leaf Chains consist of various functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are designed for lift truck masts, for low-speed pulling and tension linkage, and as balancers between counterweight and head in certain machine gadgets. Leaf chains are occasionally even referred to as Balance Chains.

Construction and Features

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

Handling and Selection

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates have higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, whereas in leaf chains, just two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the utmost acceptable tension is low. While handling leaf chains it is vital to confer with the manufacturer's handbook in order to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety guards all the time. It is a good idea to carry out utmost caution and utilize extra safety measures in functions where the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Using much more plates in the lacing leads to the higher tensile strength. As this does not improve the maximum allowable tension directly, the number of plates used may be restricted. The chains require frequent lubrication because the pins link directly on the plates, producing an extremely high bearing pressure. Using a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently advised for most applications. If the chain is cycled more than 1000 times daily or if the chain speed is over 30m per minute, it would wear really quick, even with continual lubrication. Thus, in either of these situations the use of RS Roller Chains will be much more suitable.

AL type chains are only to be utilized under certain conditions like for instance where there are no shock loads or when wear is not a big concern. Make sure that the number of cycles does not go over 100 day after day. The BL-type will be better suited under various situations.

If a chain with a lower safety factor is chosen then the stress load in components will become higher. If chains are used with corrosive elements, then they may become fatigued and break somewhat easily. Doing frequent maintenance is really essential if operating under these kinds of situations.

The inner link or outer link kind of end link on the chain will determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers, but the user typically provides the clevis. An improperly made clevis could lessen the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the producer. Refer to the ANSI standard or contact the maker.