Mast Chain

Forklift Mast Chain - Used in different applications, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They can be used for lift truck masts, as balancers between counterweight and heads in several machine devices, and for tension linkage and low-speed pulling. Leaf chains are occasionally also known as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Leaf chains are actually steel chains utilizing 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 such as high tensile strength for each section area, which allows the design of smaller mechanisms. There are A- and B- kind chains in this series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series contain the same pitch as RS60. Finally, these chains cannot be powered utilizing sprockets.

Selection and Handling

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive tension of press fits, yet the leaf chain just has two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most permissible tension is low and the tensile strength is high. When handling leaf chains it is essential to check with the manufacturer's manual so as to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures all the time. It is a great idea to carry out extreme care and utilize extra safety measures in applications where the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of more plates. Because the utilization of a lot more plates does not enhance the most permissible tension directly, the number of plates could be limited. The chains require regular lubrication as the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Utilizing a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is normally suggested for nearly all applications. If the chain is cycled more than 1000 times in a day or if the chain speed is more than 30m for each minute, it would wear really rapidly, even with constant lubrication. So, in either of these situations using RS Roller Chains would be more suitable.

The AL-type of chains should only be utilized under certain conditions like for example if wear is not a big concern, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not exceed 100 day by day. The BL-type will be better suited under different conditions.

The stress load in parts will become higher if a chain utilizing a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is even used among corrosive situations, it can easily fatigue and break extremely quick. Doing frequent maintenance is really important if operating under these kinds of situations.

The outer link or inner link type of end link on the chain would determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or likewise known as Clevis pins are made by manufacturers, but the user typically supplies the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis can lessen the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the maker. Check the ANSI standard or get in touch with the producer.