

Mast Chains

Forklift Mast Chains - Leaf Chains comprise various functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are designed for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and forklift masts, and as balancers between head and counterweight in certain machine gadgets. Leaf chains are sometimes even called Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

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

Selection and Handling

In roller chains, the link plates have a higher fatigue resistance due to the compressive stress of press fits, yet the leaf chain just contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most allowable tension is low and the tensile strength is high. When handling leaf chains it is essential to consult the manufacturer's instruction booklet to be able to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and use safety guards at all times. It is a better idea to exercise extreme care and utilize extra safety measures in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of much more plates. As the use of a lot more plates does not improve the most allowable tension directly, the number of plates can be restricted. The chains need frequent lubrication because the pins link directly on the plates, generating a really high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is often advised for most applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times in a day or if the chain speed is more than 30m for each minute, it would wear really fast, even with continual lubrication. So, in either of these situations utilizing RS Roller Chains would be much more suitable.

AL type chains are only to be used under certain situations such as where there are no shock loads or when wear is not a huge concern. Be certain that the number of cycles does not go over a hundred per day. The BL-type will be better suited under various conditions.

The stress load in components would become higher if a chain with a lower safety factor is selected. If the chain is likewise utilized among corrosive situations, it can easily fatigue and break very quick. Doing regular maintenance is vital if operating under these kinds of situations.

The outer link or inner link kind of end link on the chain would determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or also known as Clevis pins are constructed by manufacturers, but the user normally supplies the clevis. A wrongly made clevis can reduce the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the manufacturer. Refer to the ANSI standard or contact the producer.