

Mast Chain

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

Features and Construction

Leaf chains are steel chains with a simple link plate and pin construction. The chain number refers to the pitch and the lacing of the links. The chains have specific features like for instance high tensile strength for each section area, which enables the design of smaller mechanisms. There are A- and B- type chains in this series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series have the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be driven utilizing sprockets.

Selection and Handling

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive tension of press fits, yet the leaf chain just contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the maximum permissible tension is low and the tensile strength is high. If handling leaf chains it is essential to check with the manufacturer's catalogue in order to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety guards at all times. It is a great idea to exercise extreme care and utilize extra safety measures in functions wherein the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Utilizing more plates in the lacing causes the higher tensile strength. Since this does not enhance the most allowable tension directly, the number of plates used may be limited. The chains need regular lubrication since the pins link directly on the plates, generating a really high bearing pressure. Utilizing a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is often 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 per minute, it would wear extremely fast, even with continuous lubrication. Hence, in either of these conditions utilizing RS Roller Chains will be much more suitable.

The AL-type of chains should only be utilized under certain situations like if wear is really not a huge problem, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not go beyond a hundred daily. The BL-type would be better suited under different conditions.

If a chain with a lower safety factor is selected then the stress load in components would become higher. If chains are utilized with corrosive elements, then they may become fatigued and break rather easily. Performing frequent maintenance is really important if operating under these kinds of conditions.

The kind of end link of the chain, whether it is an inner link or outer link, determines the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or Clevis pins are made by manufacturers but usually, the user provides the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis could lessen the working life of the chain. The strands must be finished to length by the manufacturer. Check the ANSI standard or get in touch with the producer.