Mast Chain

Mast Chains - Utilized in various functions, leaf chains are regulated by ANSI. They could be used for forklift masts, as balancers between heads and counterweight in some machine gadgets, and for tension linkage and low-speed pulling. Leaf chains are sometimes also known as Balance Chains.

Features and Construction

Made of a simple pin construction and link plate, 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 high tensile strength for every section area, which enables the design of smaller machines. There are A- and B- type chains in this series and both the AL6 and BL6 Series comprise the same pitch as RS60. Lastly, these chains cannot be driven with sprockets.

Handling and Selection

In roller chains, the link plates maintain a higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive tension of press fits, yet the leaf chain only contains two outer press fit plates. On the leaf chain, the most permissible tension is low and the tensile strength is high. If handling leaf chains it is essential to consult the manufacturer's manual to be able to guarantee the safety factor is outlined and utilize safety measures at all times. It is a great idea to carry out utmost caution and utilize extra safety guards in applications wherein the consequences of chain failure are serious.

Utilizing more plates in the lacing causes the higher tensile strength. In view of the fact that this does not enhance the utmost acceptable tension directly, the number of plates utilized can be limited. The chains require regular lubrication in view of the fact that the pins link directly on the plates, generating an extremely high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is often advised for nearly all applications. If the chain is cycled over 1000 times in a day or if the chain speed is more than 30m for every minute, it would wear really quick, even with continual lubrication. Therefore, in either of these conditions utilizing RS Roller Chains will be more suitable.

AL type chains are only to be used under certain conditions like for example where there are no shock loads or when wear is not a big issue. Make sure that the number of cycles does not exceed a hundred per day. The BL-type will be better suited under different conditions.

The stress load in parts would become higher if a chain using a lower safety factor is chosen. If the chain is even used amongst corrosive conditions, it can easily fatigue and break extremely quick. Performing frequent maintenance is really important when operating under these types of conditions.

The outer link or inner link type of end link on the chain will determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or also known as Clevis pins are made by manufacturers, but the user typically provides the clevis. An improperly constructed clevis could decrease 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 maker.