

## **CHAIN CARE & TROUBLESHOOTING**

| Problem   | Possible Causes   | What To Do  |
|---|---|---|
| Excessive noise   | <ul> <li>Misalignment of sprocket</li> <li>Loose casings or bearings</li> <li>Too little or too much slack</li> <li>Chain and/or sprocket wear</li> <li>Inadequate lubrication or no lubrication</li> <li>Chain pitch size too large</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Realign sprockets and shafts</li> <li>Tighten set-bolts</li> <li>Adjust center or idler take-up</li> <li>Replace chain and/or sprocket</li> <li>Lubricate properly</li> <li>Check chain drive recommendation</li> </ul>  |
| Chain vibration   | <ul><li>Resonance to the vibration cycle of machine to be installed</li><li>High load fluctuation</li></ul>   | <ul><li>Change vibration cycle of chain or machine</li><li>Use torque converter or fluid coupling</li></ul>   |
| Wear on inside of link plate and one side of sprocket teeth | ■ Misalignment  | ■ Realign sprockets and shafts  |
| Chain climbs sprockets                                      | <ul><li>■ Excessive chain slack</li><li>■ Heavy overload</li></ul>  | <ul><li>Adjust center or idler take-up</li><li>Reduce load or install stronger chain</li></ul>  |
| Broken pins, bushings or rollers                            | ■ Chain speed too high for pitch and sprocket size  | Use shorter pitch chain or install larger diameter sprockets  |
|   | <ul><li>Heavy shock or suddenly applied loads</li><li>Material build-up in sprocket tooth pockets</li></ul>   | <ul> <li>Reduce shock load or install stronger chain</li> <li>Remove material build-up or install side<br/>gashed sprockets</li> </ul>  |
|   | <ul><li>Inadequate lubrication</li><li>Chain or sprocket corrosion</li></ul>  | <ul><li>Lubricate properly</li><li>Install anti-corrosive chain or sprockets</li></ul>  |
| Chain clings to sprocket                                    | <ul><li>Center distance too big or high load fluctuation</li><li>Excessive chain slack</li></ul>  | <ul><li>Adjust the center distance or install idler take-up</li><li>Same as above</li></ul>   |
| Chain gets stiff  | <ul> <li>Misalignment</li> <li>Inadequate lubrication</li> <li>Corrosion</li> <li>Excessive load</li> <li>Material build-up in chain joint</li> <li>Peening of link plate edges</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Realign sprockets and shafts</li> <li>Lubricate properly</li> <li>Replace with anti-corrosive chain</li> <li>Reduce load or replace with chain of suitable strength</li> <li>Shield drive from foreign matter</li> <li>Check for chain interference</li> </ul> |
| Breakage of link plate                                      | <ul><li>Subjected to shock load</li><li>Vibration</li><li>Moment of load inertia is too big</li></ul>   | <ul> <li>Reduce shock (e.g., install a shock absorber)</li> <li>Install a device to absorb vibration (e.g., tightener, idler wheel)</li> <li>Chain section should be checked (increase number of strands or select next larger</li> </ul>                               |

