the moveable end of the energy guide chain relative to the entrainment member.

3. A monitoring system according to one of claims 1 and 2 characterised in that a strain gauge (621, 622, 641, 642) is fixed as the sensor device to the at least one elastically deformable flexural region (321, 322; 341, 342).

4. A monitoring system according to claim 2 or claim 3 characterised in that two series-connected strain gauges (621, 622; 641, 642) are respectively provided at each of the two webs (32, 34), wherein the strain gauges are preferably arranged in symmetrical and diametrically opposite relationship and the series-connected strain gauges (621, 622; 641, 642) are preferably connected in parallel to constitute a Wheatstone bridge so that the strain gauges of each web are respectively connected in series between the two supply terminals (66, 68) of the Wheatstone bridge.

5. A monitoring system according to one of claims 1 to 4 characterised in that the web (92) or the two webs (32, 34) is or are of an operative length (W) which can be stressed in flexing of at least 20%, preferably at least 25%, of the lever arm (H) causing flexing, measured between the fixing location on the entrainment member (4) and the hinge axis of the most closely adjacent hinge of the energy guide chain (1).

6. A monitoring system according to claim 2 characterised in that the force sensor (10; 90) further includes a second flange (24) which is shaped in one piece and which preferably has means (27) for fixing to the moveable end (3) of the energy guide chain (1), wherein a connecting surface (29) on the second flange (24) preferably extends inclinedly relative to a connecting surface (22) on the first flange.

the moveable end of the energy guide chain relative to the entrainment member.

3. A monitoring system according to one of claims 1 and 2 characterised in that a strain gauge (621, 622, 641, 642) is fixed as the sensor device to the at least one elastically deformable flexural region (321, 322; 341, 342).

4. A monitoring system according to claim 2 characterised in that two series-connected strain gauges (621, 622; 641, 642) are respectively provided at each of the two webs (32, 34), wherein the strain gauges are preferably arranged in symmetrical and diametrically opposite relationship and the series-connected strain gauges (621, 622; 641, 642) are preferably connected in parallel to constitute a Wheatstone bridge so that the strain gauges of each web are respectively connected in series between the two supply terminals (66, 68) of the Wheatstone bridge.

5. A monitoring system according to one of claims 1 to 4 characterised in that the web (92) or the two webs (32, 34) is or are of an operative length (W) which can be stressed in flexing of at least 20%, preferably at least 25%, of the lever arm (H) causing flexing, measured between the fixing location on the entrainment member (4) and the hinge axis of the most closely adjacent hinge of the energy guide chain (1).

6. A monitoring system according to claim 2 characterised in that the force sensor (10; 90) further includes a second flange (24) which is shaped in one piece and which preferably has means (27) for fixing to the moveable end (3) of the energy guide chain (1), wherein a connecting surface (29) on the second flange (24) preferably extends inclinedly relative to a connecting surface (22) on the first flange.