

Description

This invention relates to drive pulleys, and in particular to variable drive pulleys.

In one conventional form of variable pulley known in the art, a pair of sideplates defining confronting conical belt-engaging surfaces are mounted to a shaft by splines, or keyways. At least one of the sideplates is movable along the shaft to provide a variable spacing between the conical belt-engaging surfaces, thereby to provide the variable drive. The provision of the splines, or keyways, has presented manufacturing problems in that such manufacture has required expensive materials and high manufacturing costs. Additionally, such pulley construction has had the serious disadvantage of high stress produced in the splines and keyways. Such stress has caused substantial wear and heating of the structure resulting in increased sliding resistance and shortened useful life of the structure.

In one prior art variable pulley structure illustrated in Japanese Utility Model Publication No. 354 21/1977, one of the movable sideplates of the variable pulley is engaged by a coil spring. The opposite ends of the coil spring are bent and retained at one end in a recess provided in the movable sideplates and at the other end in a part of the shaft. Rotation of the pulley in use of the drive urges the coil spring in a winding direction. Repeated rotational pulses applied to the spring as a result of torque variations in the operation of the drive system have often resulted in breaking of the spring, particularly at the connections to the sideplate and shaft.

United States Patent Specification No. 2,607,235 discloses a pulley arrangement having one pair of bevel discs mounted on a driving shaft and one pair of bevel discs mounted on a drive shaft. Those on the driving shaft are axially movably mounted to the shaft by means of keys and are connected to the shaft via stress absorbing springs through which the driving torque is conveyed. The springs are connected to the shaft by having their ends turned in an axial direction and introduced into respective openings of bushes slidably mounted on the shaft by means of keys.

As mentioned above, the provision of keys is unsatisfactory, and the spring may break at the ends as a result of repeated torque variations.

The object of the present invention is to provide a variable pulley structure which eliminates or mitigates the serious disadvantages of the prior art structures as discussed above in a novel and simple manner.

According to the present invention there is provided a variable pulley (11) arranged to be mounted with respect to a shaft (17), the pulley comprising:—

first and second sideplate elements (12, 14) defining respectively first and second frusto-conical belt-engaging surfaces (13, 15);

means for mounting the first sideplate element coaxially with respect to the shaft;

means for mounting the second sideplate element coaxially with respect to the shaft whereby the second sideplate element is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft with the second belt-engaging surface facing the first belt-engaging surface for force transfer engagement with inclined edge surfaces of a V-belt (10) extending about the shaft between the first and second belt-engaging surfaces;

a coil spring (26) having opposite end faces; a spring retainer (22); and

means for mounting the spring retainer with respect to the shaft with the spring extending coaxially around the shaft between the second sideplate element and the spring retainer;

characterised in that the second sideplate element and the spring retainer are each provided with a respective spring end face abutment surface against each of which bears a respective end face of the spring so that the spring is urged in the unwinding direction by torque developed in the second sideplate element by the V-belt in normal drive operation.

The reference numerals are used above to indicate one particular possibility for each feature of the invention as described in the embodiment of the invention given by way of example only: they are in no way to be construed as limiting the feature of the invention to that particular possibility.

At least one of the two sideplates is thus free to move axially and rotatably on the shaft. A coil spring is coaxially mounted about the shaft with one end engaging the movable sideplate and the opposite end engaging a spring retainer fixedly carried by the shaft.

In one embodiment, the opposite end faces of the spring are retained in association with the sideplate and spring retainer by having the ends thereof received in suitable grooves provided in the sideplate and retainer.

In another embodiment, the end faces of the spring are retained by means of a shoulder projection on the sideplate and retainer engaging the distal ends of the spring.

The coil spring may be made of a suitable springy element having a suitable cross-section, such as round or polyhedral, and in the illustrated embodiments, in one form, the spring has a circular cross-section, and, in a second form, has a square cross-section.

The grooves receiving the ends of the spring may be tapered and, in the illustrated embodiment, have a preselected maximum depth.

The movable sideplate(s) may be provided with suitable low friction bushings for facilitating the movement thereof on the shaft.

In one form, the movable sideplate is provided with a cast iron inner portion engaging the shaft for improved low friction, low wear mounting.

The shaft may be caused to be wear resistant in the portion thereof supporting the movable sideplate(s). In the illustrated embodiment, in one

form, the shaft is induction-hardened, and in another form, is provided with a wear resistant layer formed of a suitable material, such as chromium.

The variable pulley structure of the present invention is simple and economical of construction while yet providing the highly desirable features discussed above.

For a better understanding of the present invention and to show how the same may be carried into effect, reference will now be made, by way of example to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a diametric section of a variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a transverse section taken along the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a transverse section taken substantially along the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4a is a radial section taken substantially along the line 4a—4a of Figure 2;

Figure 4b is a radial section taken substantially along the line 4b—4b of Figure 2;

Figure 4c is a radial section taken substantially along the line 4c—4c of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a schematic illustration of the spring arrangement of Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a diametric section of a modified form of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 7 is a schematic illustration of the spring arrangement of the embodiment of Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a diametric section of still another form of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 9 is a diametric section of yet another form of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 10 is a diametric section of still another embodiment of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 11 is a schematic diagram illustrating the spring arrangement of the embodiment of Figure 10;

Figure 12a is a fragmentary elevation of a round spring as employed in certain of the embodiments of the invention;

Figure 12b is a diametric section of a square wire spring as employed in other embodiments of the invention;

Figure 13 is a diametric section of another form of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 14 is a diametric section of yet another form of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 15 is a diametric section of another form of variable pulley system embodying the invention;

Figure 16 is a diametric section of yet another form of variable pulley system embodying the invention; and

Figure 17 is a diametric section of a still further form of variable pulley system embodying the invention.

In the exemplary embodiments of the invention as disclosed in the drawing, a number of different variable pulley structures are shown for use with a V-belt generally designated 10 as for use in transmitting power at variable speed ratios. In one embodiment, the variable pulley structure generally designated 11, as shown in Figure 1, includes a first sideplate element 12 defining a first frustoconical belt-engaging surface 13, and a second sideplate element 14 defining a second frustoconical belt-engaging surface 15. As will be obvious to those skilled in the art, by adjusting the spacing between belt surfaces 13 and 15, the belt 10 will ride between the belt surfaces at different radial distances from the axis 16 of the shaft 17 on which the sideplate elements are mounted so as to provide a variable ratio power transmission.

In variable pulley structure 11, the first sideplate element 12 is fixedly secured to the shaft by a suitable screw 18 extending through a hub portion 19 of the element and engaging the shaft.

Sideplate element 14, however, is movably mounted on shaft 17 for both axial and rotational movement relative to the shaft. Thus, sideplate element 14 defines a hub portion 20 which is slidably carried on the shaft. To provide reduced friction and wear between the hub portion 20 and shaft, either or both of the hub portion 20 and shaft portion on which the hub portion rides may be formed of cast iron, or a suitable low seizure material. Alternatively, the portion 21 of shaft 17 on which the hub portion 20 is mounted may be made to be wear resistant as by suitable hardening. Illustratively, the portion 21 may be hardened by inductive heating. Alternatively, the shaft portion 21 may be provided with a suitable wear resistant low friction surface layer or coating. Illustratively, the surface may be chromium plated.

A spring retainer 22 is fixedly mounted to the shaft adjacent second sideplate element 14 as by a suitable screw 23. Sideplate element 14 and retainer 22 define confronting radial surfaces 24 and 25, respectively, between which a coil spring 26 is retained for biasing or urging the sideplate element 14 toward sideplate element 12. In the embodiment of Figure 1, spring 26 is formed of an elongated element, such as a springy wire, having a curved cross section, and more specifically, as seen in Figure 1, a circular cross-section. The opposite ends of the spring are received in complementary arcuate grooves, including groove 27 in retainer face 25 and groove 28 in sideplate element face 24. Thus, groove 27 receives end 29 of spring 26 and groove 28 receives the opposite end 30 of the spring.

Each of the crescent-shaped grooves is tapered, as seen in Figures 2 and 3, in depth so that at the small end thereof, the groove has a depth of one-sixth or more of the diameter of the spring end. The radial width of the grooves may vary correspondingly.

As seen in Figures 2 and 3, the tapered grooves extend in opposite directions so as to urge the spring in an unwinding direction as a result of

urging of the sideplate element 15 in the direction of the arrow 31, as seen in Figure 2, by drive forces transmitted thereto by the belt 10 in operation of the system. It has been found that by maintaining the shallowest depth of the tapered groove at least one-sixth of the diameter of the spring wire, a positive engagement of the spring ends is effectively maintained. The decrease in the depth and width of the respective grooves is illustrated in Figures 4a, 4b and 4c, and Figure 5.

As illustrated in Figure 6, a modified form of variable pulley structure generally designated 111 is shown to comprise a structure similar to structure 11 but wherein the opposite ends of the spring 126 are retained by abutment thereof with a projecting shoulder 131 on spring retainer 122 and a corresponding projecting shoulder 132 on sideplate element 114. As shown in Figure 6, the retainer 131 defines a cylindrical surface 133 coaxially receiving the end 129 of spring 126, and sideplate element 114 defines a cylindrical surface 134 coaxially receiving the opposite end 130 of the spring. Thus, in the embodiment of Figure 6, the spring 126 is effectively retained in biasing relationship with the sideplate element 114 by its simple abutment with the shoulders 131 and 132, respectively, so that the spring again is urged in the unwinding direction by the forces transmitted from the belt and to the movable sideplate element 114 during the operation of the drive system. In all other respects, the variable pulley structure 111 is similar to variable pulley structure 11 of the first described embodiment.

The abutment of the spring ends 129 and 130 with the stop shoulders 131 and 132, respectively, is illustrated in Figure 7.

The improved variable pulley structure described above is advantageously adapted for use in power transmission systems wherein variable speed is desired. The effective diameter of the variable pulley structure may be readily changed by adjusting the tension of the belt 10. The elimination of the need for splines, or keyways, has provided a long, trouble-free life structure by eliminating undesirable stresses in the system. As a result of the unwinding of the biasing spring as a function of torque increases, an improved torque-transmitting means is provided.

The use of low friction, wear resistant contact surfaces between the movable sideplate element and the shaft provides long, troublefree life. Alternatively, as shown in Figure 16, the movable sideplate element may be movably mounted to the shaft as by a suitable sleeve bushing 35 to provide further low friction sliding engagement, hub portion 20 of the sideplate element may be provided with suitable oil grooves 36, as seen in Figure 1, and alternatively, the bushing 35, as seen in Figure 16, may be provided with suitable oil grooves 37.

In the above discussed embodiments, only one of the sideplate elements is movably mounted to the shaft. The invention, however, further comprehends the movable mounting of both of

the sideplate elements. Thus, in the variable pulley structure generally designated 211 illustrated in Figure 8, each of the sideplate elements 212 and 214 is movably mounted to the shaft 217 in a manner similar to the mounting of the movable sideplate element 14 to the shaft in the variable pulley structure 11 illustrated in Figure 1. Similarly, in Figure 9, the variable pulley structure generally designated 311 is shown to comprise a structure similar to structure 211 in having each of the sideplate elements movably mounted to the shaft but utilizing projecting stop shoulders in retaining the ends of the springs in a manner similar to that of the variable pulley structure 111 illustrated in Figure 6.

Referring now to Figure 10, a further modified form of variable pulley structure generally designated 411 is shown to comprise a variable pulley structure similar to pulley structure 11 but wherein the spring 426 is formed of a spring element having a polyhedral cross section. In the illustrated embodiment, the cross section is rectangular. The abutment of the ends of the rectangular spring with the stop shoulders 431 and 432 is illustrated in Figure 11.

Referring to Figure 13, a modified form of variable pulley structure generally designated 511 is shown to comprise a structure similar to pulley structure 411 in utilizing a spring having a polyhedral cross-section, but wherein the ends of the spring are received in crescent tapered grooves 527 and 528, respectively, in the spring retainer 522 and movable sideplate element 514. As shown, the grooves have a polyhedral cross section which tapers in width and depth similarly to the taper of the round grooves 28 and 29 of visible pulley structure 11.

The variable pulley structure 611 of Figure 14 is similar to variable pulley structure 411 of Figure 10, but utilizes the movable sideplate element structure for each of the sideplates 612 and 614.

The variable pulley structure 711 of Figure 15 is similar to the variable pulley structure 511 of Figure 13, but utilizes the movable sideplate means for each of the sideplate means of structure 511 for each of the sideplates 712 and 714.

The variable pulley structure of Figure 16 is similar to the variable pulley structure 411 of Figure 10, but utilizes a sleeve bushing 35 having oil grooves 37.

Figure 17 illustrates a pulley structure similar to that of Figure 16, but utilizing a pair of springs and spring retainers and a corresponding pair of sleeve bushings 35 having oil grooves 37.

The use of the rectangular cross section spring provides an improvement in transmission efficiency, especially under severe load conditions. Thus, the square spring embodiments provide a smaller angle of torsion resulting from the torque on the spring effected by the forcible urging of the movable sideplate in the operation of the pulley structure, as compared with the angle of torsion produced with a spring having a

round cross-section, such as the circular cross section of the variable pulley structure 11.

More specifically, with reference to the spring illustrations of Figures 12a and 12b, the improved torsional rigidity of the square spring relative to the round spring may be seen by letting D denote the effective diameter of the spring, d denote wire diameter of the round spring, h and b denote the radial dimension and axial dimension respectively of the rectangular spring, and K_1 and K_2 denote spring constants (kg/mm) of the round spring and square spring respectively.

It follows that:

$$K_1 = \frac{W_1}{\delta_1} = \frac{Gd^4}{8ND^3} \quad (1)$$

$$K_2 = \frac{W_2}{\delta_2} = \frac{4k_2Ghb^3}{\pi ND^3} \quad (2)$$

where:

δ_1 =compressive deflection of the round spring
 δ_2 =compressive deflection of the square spring
 W_1 =compressive load (kg) of the round spring
 W_2 =compressive load (kg) on the square spring
 N =number of turns on the spring
 G =modulus of elasticity in shear (kg/mm²)
 k_2 =constant determined from h/b

Letting S_1 and S_2 represent the torsional rigidity (kg-mm/radian) of the round spring and the square spring, respectively, then

$$S_1 = \frac{M_1}{\phi_1} = \frac{Ed^4}{64ND} \quad (3)$$

$$S_2 = \frac{M_2}{\phi_2} = \frac{Eb^3}{12\pi ND} \quad (4)$$

where:

M_1 =torque (kg/mm) of the round spring
 M_2 =torque (kg/mm) of the square spring
 ϕ_1 =angle of torsion (radian) of the round spring
 ϕ_2 =angle of torsion (radian) of the square spring
 E =modulus of longitudinal elasticity (kg/mm²)

When a round and a square spring defined above are used as the spring in the variable pulley, and if the two springs are the same in free length and in effective diameter of spring and under the same spring constant, that is,

$$k_1 = k_2 \quad (5)$$

then, from Eqs. (1), (2) and (5),

$$d^4 = 32k_1hb^3/\pi \quad (6)$$

When the round spring and the square spring

are under the same conditions expressed in Eq. (5), the ratio of torsional rigidity R is given as

$$R = S_1/S_2 \quad (7)$$

and, by substitution of Eqs. (4) and (7), becomes

$$R = S_1/S_2 = \frac{Ed^4}{64ND} \cdot \frac{12\pi DN}{Eb^3} = \frac{3\pi d^4}{16bh^3} \quad (8)$$

which, from Eqs. (6) and (8), results in

$$R = S_1/S_2 = \frac{6k_2b^2}{h^2} \quad (9)$$

It should be noted that with the present winding techniques for coiling a square spring, the value of b/h must be a minimum of about 0.54.

Substituting the presently technically minimum value of $b/h=0.54$ into Eq. (9) (the constant k_2 is 0.22 under this condition), so that

$$R = 6 \times 0.22 \times 0.54^2 \div 0.385 = \frac{1}{2.6}$$

The last equation indicates that a square spring is 2.6 times as torsionally rigid as a round spring when the two springs are the same in spring constant, effective diameter, and free length. That is, under the same torsional stress, the angle of torsion of the square spring is 1/2.6 of that of the round spring. Thus, as compared with the round spring, the square spring develops a smaller angle of torsion and withstands a heavier load, indicating a greater torsional rigidity.

As indicated above, the invention comprehends the provision of suitable means for providing reduced friction and wear between the movable sideplate elements and the shaft. Such may be effected by suitably treating the surface of the shaft on which the sideplate element is mounted so as to provide a hardened surface as by high frequency induction heating, nitriding, chromium plating, etc. As indicated, the mounting may be effected by use of a suitable bushing and lubrication may be provided by means of oil grooves, as desired.

By arranging the spring so that increased torque developed by the belt in the movable sideplate element causes an unwinding of the spring, failure of the springs is effectively minimized. Further, by such unwinding action, the friction between the movable sideplate element and shaft is effectively reduced whereby heating is similarly reduced and the variable pulley structure has the substantially increased useful life. Further, such reduction in friction provides increased energy efficiency in the operation of the drive. Where relatively heavy loads are anticipated, the use of the rectangular cross section spring provides further improved efficiency and troublefree life.

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As seen in Figures 9, 10, 14, 16 and 17, the helically opposite end faces of the springs have a transverse dimension perpendicular to the projection extent of the projecting shoulder means on the spring retainers and sideplates greater than the corresponding dimension of the shoulder means.

Claims

1. A variable pulley arranged to be mounted with respect to a shaft, the pulley comprising:—
first and second sideplate elements defining respectively first and second frusto-conical belt-engaging surfaces;

means for mounting the first sideplate element coaxially with respect to the shaft;

means for mounting the second sideplate element coaxially with respect to the shaft whereby the second sideplate element is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft with the second belt-engaging surface facing the first belt-engaging surface for force transfer engagement which inclined edge surfaces of a V-belt extending about the shaft between the first and second belt-engaging surfaces;

a coil spring having opposite end faces;

a spring retainer; and

means for mounting the spring retainer with respect to the shaft with the spring extending coaxially around the shaft between the second sideplate element and the spring retainer:

characterised in that the second sideplate element and the spring retainer are each provided with a respective spring end face abutment surface against each of which bears a respective end face of the spring so that the spring is urged in the unwinding direction by torque developed in the second sideplate element by the V-belt in normal drive operation.

2. A variable pulley according to claim 1, wherein the means for mounting the first sideplate element to the shaft is such that the first sideplate element is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, the pulley comprising: a further coil spring having opposite end faces; a further spring retainer; means for mounting the further spring retainer to the shaft with the further spring extending coaxially of the shaft between the first sideplate element and the further spring retainer, the first sideplate element and the further spring retainer being provided with a respective spring end face abutment surface against each of which bears a respective end face of the further spring so that the further spring is urged in the unwinding direction by torque developed in the first sideplate element by the V-belt in normal drive operation.

3. A variable pulley according to claim 1, wherein the means for mounting the first sideplate element to the shaft is such that the first sideplate element is fixedly mounted to the shaft.

4. A variable pulley according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the end faces of the or each coil spring

each have a transverse dimension greater than the corresponding dimension of the associated spring end face abutment surface.

5. A variable pulley according to any preceding claim wherein the or each spring retainer, and the or each sideplate element which is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, are provided with a respective groove for retaining a respective one of opposite end portions of the or each spring, each groove defining one of the spring end face abutment surfaces.

6. A variable pulley according to claim 5, wherein each groove has a width equal to the radial width of the spring end portion received therein.

7. A variable pulley according to claim 6, wherein each groove has a maximum depth in the range of the axial width to one-sixth the axial width of the spring end portion received therein.

8. A variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the or each spring retainer, and the or each sideplate element which is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, comprises a shoulder which is provided with a respective one of the spring end face abutment surfaces.

9. A variable pulley according to claim 5, 6 or 7, wherein each groove is a curved tapered groove.

10. A variable pulley according to any preceding claim, wherein the or each said spring is formed of an elongate element having a round cross-section.

11. A variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 9, wherein each said spring is formed of an elongate element having a polyhedral cross-section.

12. A variable pulley according to any preceding claim, wherein the or each sideplate element which is arranged to be rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft is provided with a cast iron radially inner portion for wear resistant engagement of the shaft.

13. A variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 11, wherein a sleeve bushing is provided in the or each sideplate element which is arranged to be rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, for movable mounting to the shaft.

14. A variable pulley arrangement including: a variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 13; and a shaft having a hardened surface in one or more portion thereof to which the or each sideplate element is mounted to be rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft.

15. A variable pulley arrangement according to claim 14, wherein the hardened surface comprises a hard deposited layer.

Patentansprüche

1. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe, welche auf einer Welle montierbar ist und

ein erstes und ein zweites Sietenplattelement aufweist, welche eine erste und eine zweite kegelstumpfförmige Riemenlauffläche bilden,

eine Einrichtung zum koaxialen Montieren des

As seen in Figures 9, 10, 14, 16 and 17, the helically opposite end faces of the springs have a transverse dimension perpendicular to the projection extent of the projecting shoulder means on the spring retainers and sideplates greater than the corresponding dimension of the shoulder means.

Claims

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first and second sideplate elements defining respectively first and second frusto-conical belt-engaging surfaces;

means for mounting the first sideplate element coaxially with respect to the shaft;

means for mounting the second sideplate element coaxially with respect to the shaft whereby the second sideplate element is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft with the second belt-engaging surface facing the first belt-engaging surface for force transfer engagement which inclined edge surfaces of a V-belt extending about the shaft between the first and second belt-engaging surfaces;

a coil spring having opposite end faces;

a spring retainer; and

means for mounting the spring retainer with respect to the shaft with the spring extending coaxially around the shaft between the second sideplate element and the spring retainer:

characterised in that the second sideplate element and the spring retainer are each provided with a respective spring end face abutment surface against each of which bears a respective end face of the spring so that the spring is urged in the unwinding direction by torque developed in the second sideplate element by the V-belt in normal drive operation.

2. A variable pulley according to claim 1, wherein the means for mounting the first sideplate element to the shaft is such that the first sideplate element is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, the pulley comprising: a further coil spring having opposite end faces; a further spring retainer; means for mounting the further spring retainer to the shaft with the further spring extending coaxially of the shaft between the first sideplate element and the further spring retainer, the first sideplate element and the further spring retainer being provided with a respective spring end face abutment surface against each of which bears a respective end face of the further spring so that the further spring is urged in the unwinding direction by torque developed in the first sideplate element by the V-belt in normal drive operation.

3. A variable pulley according to claim 1, wherein the means for mounting the first sideplate element to the shaft is such that the first sideplate element is fixedly mounted to the shaft.

4. A variable pulley according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the end faces of the or each coil spring

each have a transverse dimension greater than the corresponding dimension of the associated spring end face abutment surface.

5. A variable pulley according to any preceding claim wherein the or each spring retainer, and the or each sideplate element which is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, are provided with a respective groove for retaining a respective one of opposite end portions of the or each spring, each groove defining one of the spring end face abutment surfaces.

6. A variable pulley according to claim 5, wherein each groove has a width equal to the radial width of the spring end portion received therein.

7. A variable pulley according to claim 6, wherein each groove has a maximum depth in the range of the axial width to one-sixth the axial width of the spring end portion received therein.

8. A variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the or each spring retainer, and the or each sideplate element which is rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, comprises a shoulder which is provided with a respective one of the spring end face abutment surfaces.

9. A variable pulley according to claim 5, 6 or 7, wherein each groove is a curved tapered groove.

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13. A variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 11, wherein a sleeve bushing is provided in the or each sideplate element which is arranged to be rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft, for movable mounting to the shaft.

14. A variable pulley arrangement including: a variable pulley according to any of claims 1 to 13; and a shaft having a hardened surface in one or more portion thereof to which the or each sideplate element is mounted to be rotatable and axially movable with respect to the shaft.

15. A variable pulley arrangement according to claim 14, wherein the hardened surface comprises a hard deposited layer.

Patentansprüche

1. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe, welche auf einer Welle montierbar ist und

ein erstes und ein zweites Seitenplattenelement aufweist, welche eine erste und eine zweite kegelstumpfförmige Riemenauflfläche bilden,

eine Einrichtung zum koaxialen Montieren des



ersten Seitenplattelementes relativ zur Welle besitzt,

eine Einrichtung zum coaxialen Montieren des zweiten Seitenplattelementes relativ zur Welle aufweist, wobei das zweite Seitenplattelement relativ zur Welle drehbar und axial verschiebbar ist und die zweite Riemenlauffläche der ersten Riemenlauffläche zwecks kraftschlüssiger Anlage an den geneigten Randflächen eines sich zwischen der ersten und der zweiten Riemenlauffläche um die Welle herum erstreckenden Keilriemens gegenüberliegt,

eine gegenüberliegende Endflächen aufweisende Schraubenfeder besitzt,

einen Federhalter aufweist und

eine Einrichtung zum Montieren des Federhalters an der Welle aufweist, wobei sich die Schraubenfeder zwischen dem zweiten Seitenplattelement und dem Federhalter coaxial um die Welle herum erstreckt,

dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß sowohl das zweite Seitenplattelement als auch der Federhalter eine Federabstützfläche besitzt, gegen jede derselben sich die Feder mit einer Endfläche solcherart abstützt, daß die Schraubenfeder bei Auftreten eines im normalen Antriebsbetrieb durch den Keilriemen im zweiten Seitenplattelement erzeugten Drehmoments in Abwickelrichtung belastet wird.

2. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 1, worin die Einrichtung zum Montieren des ersten Seitenplattelementes an der Welle so ausgebildet ist, daß das erste Seitenplattelement relativ zur Welle verdrehbar und axial beweglich ist, wobei die Riemenscheibe eine weitere Schraubenfeder mit einander gegenüberliegenden Endflächen, einen weiteren Federhalter und eine Einrichtung zum Montieren des weiteren Federhalters an der Welle bei sich zwischen dem ersten Seitenplattelement und dem weiteren Federhalter coaxial um die Welle erstreckender weiterer Schraubenfeder aufweist und sowohl das erste Seitenplattelement als auch der weitere Federhalter mit einer Federabstützfläche zum Abstützen je einer Endfläche der weiteren Schraubenfeder solcherart ausgestattet ist, daß die weitere Schraubenfeder beim Auftreten eines im normalen Antriebsbetrieb durch den Keilriemen im ersten Seitenplattelement erzeugten Drehmoments in Abwickelrichtung belastet wird.

3. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 1, worin die Einrichtung zum Montieren des ersten Seitenplattelementes an der Welle eine solche ist, daß das erste Seitenplattelement auf der Welle fest montiert ist.

4. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 1, 2 oder 3, worin jede der Endflächen der Schraubenfeder oder jeder Schraubenfeder eine größere Querabmessung besitzt als die entsprechende Abmessung der zugehörigen Abstützfläche für die Endfläche der Schraubenfeder.

5. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach irgendeinem vorhergehenden Anspruch, worin der

Federhalter oder jeder Federhalter und das gegenüber der Welle verdrehbare und axial verschiebbare Seitenplattelement oder jedes Solches Seitenplattelement mit einer Nut zum Haltern eines der gegenüberliegenden Endteile der Schraubenfeder oder jeder Schraubenfeder ausgestattet ist, wobei jede Nut eine der Abstützfläche für Endflächen der Schraubenfeder bildet.

6. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 5, worin jede Nut eine Breite besitzt, welche gleich ist der radialen Breite des in diese Nut eingesetzten Endteiles der Schraubenfeder.

7. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 6, worin die maximale Tiefe jeder Nut im Bereiche zwischen der axialen Länge und einem Sechstel der axialen Länge des in die Nut eingesetzten Endteils der Schraubenfeder liegt.

8. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4, worin der Federhalter oder jeder Federhalter und auch das auf der Welle verdrehbare und axial verschiebbare Seitenplattelement oder jedes Seitenplattelement eine Schulter aufweist, welche mit einer der Abstützflächen für die Endfläche einer Schraubenfeder ausgestattet ist.

9. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 5, 6 oder 7, worin jede Nut eine gekrümmte, spitz zulaufende Nut ist.

10. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach irgendeinem vorhergehenden Anspruch, worin die Schraubenfeder oder jede Schraubenfeder von einem länglichen Element runden Querschnitts gebildet ist.

11. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 9, worin jede Schraubenfeder von einem länglichen Element polyedrischen Querschnitts gebildet ist.

12. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach irgendeinem vorhergehenden Anspruch, worin das auf der Welle drehbar und axial beweglich angeordnete Seitenplattelement oder jedes solches Seitenplattelement mit einem radial innen gelegenen Teil aus Gußeisen ausgestattet ist, um an der Welle in verschleißfester Weise anzuliegen.

13. Verstellbare Riemenscheibe nach irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 11, worin im auf der Welle verdrehbaren und axial beweglichen Seitenplattelement oder in jedem Seitenplattelement eine Büchse zwecks beweglichen Montierens auf der Welle vorgesehen ist.

14. Anordnung mit einer verstellbaren Riemenscheibe, wobei diese Anordnung eine verstellbare Riemenscheibe gemäß irgendeinem der Ansprüche 1 bis 13 und eine Welle aufweist und die Welle in einem Bereich oder mehreren Bereichen, an welchem bzw. an welchen das Seitenplattelement oder jedes Seitenplattelement auf der Welle verdrehbar und axial beweglich zu montieren ist, eine gehärtete Oberfläche besitzt.

15. Anordnung mit einer verstellbaren Riemenscheibe nach Anspruch 14, worin die gehärtete Oberfläche eine harte Auftragsschicht aufweist.



Revendications

1. Une poulie variable agencée de façon à pouvoir être montée relativement à un arbre, la poulie comprenant

des premier et second éléments formant flasque (12, 14) délimitant respectivement des première et second surfaces tronconiques d'appui de courroie;

des moyens pour monter le premier élément formant flasque coaxialement par rapport à l'arbre;

des moyens pour monter le second élément formant flasque coaxialement par rapport à l'arbre de façon que le second élément formant flasque puisse tourner et se déplacer axialement par rapport à l'arbre, la seconde surface d'appui de courroie faisant face à la première surface d'appui de courroie pour permettre une coopération de transfert de force contre les surfaces latérales inclinées d'un courroie trapézoïdale qui s'étend autour de l'arbre entre les première et seconde surface d'appui de courroie;

un ressort hélicoïdal ayant des faces d'extrémité opposées;

un organe de retenue de ressort; et

des moyens pour monter l'organe de retenue par rapport à l'arbre, le ressort s'étendant coaxialement autour de l'arbre entre le second élément formant flasque et l'organe de retenue du ressort; caractérisé en ce que le second élément formant flasque et l'organe de retenue de ressort sont tous deux munis d'une surface de butée respective pour une face d'extrémité de ressort contre chacune desquelles est en appui une face d'extrémité respective du ressort de façon que le ressort soit sollicité dans le sens du déroulement par le couple engendré dans le second élément formant flasque par la courroie trapézoïdale au cours du fonctionnement d'entraînement normal.

2. Une poulie variable selon la revendication 1, dans laquelle les moyens servant à monter le premier élément formant flasque sur l'arbre sont tels que le premier élément formant flasque est mobile axialement et en rotation par rapport à l'arbre, la poulie comprenant: un autre ressort hélicoïdal ayant des faces d'extrémité opposées; un autre organe de retenue de ressort; des moyens pour monter l'autre organe de retenue de ressort sur l'arbre, l'autre ressort s'étendant coaxialement à l'arbre entre le premier élément formant flasque et l'autre organe de retenue de ressort, le premier élément formant flasque et l'autre organe de retenue de ressort étant munis d'une surface de butée respective pour une face d'extrémité de ressort contre chacune desquelles est en appui une face d'extrémité respective de l'autre ressort de façon que l'autre ressort soit sollicité dans le sens du déroulement par le couple engendré dans le premier élément formant flasque par la courroie trapézoïdale au cours du fonctionnement d'entraînement normal.

3. Une poulie variable selon la revendication 1, dans laquelle les moyens servant à monter le

premier élément formant flasque sur l'arbre sont tels que le premier élément formant flasque est fixement monté sur l'arbre.

4. Une poulie variable selon la revendication 1, 2 ou 3, dans laquelle chacune des faces d'extrémité du ressort hélicoïdal ou de chacun des ressorts hélicoïdaux a une dimension transversale supérieure à la dimension correspondante de la surface de butée associée pour une face d'extrémité de ressort.

5. Une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes dans laquelle l'organe de retenue de ressort ou chaque organe de retenue de ressort et l'élément formant flasque ou chaque élément formant flasque qui est mobile en rotation et axialement par rapport à l'arbre sont munis chacun d'une rainure respective pour retenir l'une respective des parties d'extrémité opposées du ressort ou de chaque ressort, chaque rainure comportant l'une des surfaces de butée pour une face d'extrémité de ressort.

6. Une poulie variable selon la revendication 5, dans laquelle chaque rainure a une largeur égale à la largeur radiale de la partie d'extrémité de ressort qu'elle reçoit.

7. Une poulie variable selon la revendication 6, dans laquelle chaque rainure a une profondeur maximale comprise entre la largeur axiale et le sixième de la largeur axiale de la partie d'extrémité de ressort qu'elle reçoit.

8. Une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 4, dans laquelle l'organe de retenue de ressort ou chaque organe de retenue de ressort et l'élément formant flasque ou chaque élément formant flasque qui est mobile en rotation et axialement par rapport à l'arbre comportent chacun un épaulement qui est muni de l'une respective des surfaces de butée pour une face d'extrémité de ressort.

9. Une poulie variable selon la revendication 5, 6, ou 7, dans laquelle chaque rainure est une rainure incurvée évasée.

10. Une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédente dans laquelle ledit ressort ou chacun desdits ressorts est formée par un élément allongé ayant une section transversale ronde.

11. Une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 9, dans laquelle chacun desdits ressorts est formé par un élément allongé ayant une section transversale polyédrique.

12. Une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes dans laquelle l'élément formant flasque ou chaque élément flasque qui est agencé de manière à être mobile axialement et en rotation par rapport à l'arbre est muni d'une partie radialement intérieure en fonte conçue pour permettre un appui résistant à l'usure contre l'arbre.

13. Une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 11, dans laquelle un manchon formant coussinet est monté dans l'élément formant flasque ou dans chaque élément formant flasque qui est agencé de



manière à être mobile axialement et en rotation par rapport à l'arbre pour assurer son montage mobile sur l'arbre.

14. Dispositif à poulie variable comprenant une poulie variable selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 13;

et un arbre ayant, dans une ou plusieurs de ses

parties une surface durcie sur laquelle est monté l'élément formant flasque ou chaque élément formant flasque de façon à être mobile axialement et en rotation par rapport à l'arbre.

15. Dispositif à poulie variable selon la revendication 14, dans lequel la surface durcie comprend une couche dure déposée.

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