

Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be prolonged greatly with good care and maintenance. For example, correct lubrication is the most efficient way in order to prolong the service capability of this particular component. It is really essential to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough so as to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur that can lead to several components to wear out in the long run. As soon as there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring correct lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.