

Forklift Chain

Chains for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be prolonged greatly with correct care and maintenance. Like for instance, right lubrication is the most effective technique so as to prolong the service capability of this particular part. It is vital to apply oil periodically using a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

All through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place that can result in several parts to wear out sooner or later. Once 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 stop the scary likelihood of a catastrophic 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.

To ensure correct lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.