

Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chains - The life of the forklift lift chains could be extended with correct care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is a great method so as to extend the capability of this lift truck component. It is really essential to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or whatever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be adequate so as to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

Through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to occur that could lead to several components to wear out sooner or later. 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 stop the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, another factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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. With no proper lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.