

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains could actually be lengthened with proper maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is a great method so as to extend the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is important to apply oil periodically with a brush or whatever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application should be adequate to be able to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen that could result in some parts to wear out in the long run. When there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% 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 proper lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when the chain is loose and then suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the correct lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.