

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can be extended with proper maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is an excellent technique to prolong the capability of this lift truck part. It is important to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient to be able to avoid whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is normal for a few metal to metal contact to occur through lift chain operation. This could lead to components to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has occurred. In order to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that 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 often 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 case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.