

Chains for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of the forklift lift chains could actually be extended with correct care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is actually a great technique in order to prolong the capability of this lift truck component. It is essential to apply oil periodically with a brush or whatever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient in order to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

Throughout lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to occur that could lead to several components to wear out in the end. Once there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent 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.

In order to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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. With no good lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.