

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could be prolonged greatly with proper maintenance and care. Like for example, correct lubrication is actually the most efficient technique to be able to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is vital to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient so as to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to take place that could result in some components to wear out eventually. 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 possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs if 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. Without the good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.