

Chains for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be extended with good care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is an excellent way to be able to prolong the capability of this particular forklift part. It is really essential to apply oil every so often with a brush or whatever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient in order to prevent 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 imperative to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to occur that could lead to a few parts to wear out eventually. As soon as 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 chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much 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 proper 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. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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. Without the proper lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains have to be replaced instantly. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.