

Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be prolonged with good maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is a great method so as to extend the capability of this particular forklift part. It is really essential to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to 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 situation has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is normal for a few metal to metal contact to occur all through lift chain operation. This could cause parts to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3 percent elongation has happened. So as to avoid the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure good 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 put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, 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. With no good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation takes place, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.