

Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chains - The life of the forklift lift chains can be lengthened with good maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually an excellent way to lengthen the capability of this lift truck part. It is vital to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be sufficient to be able to avoid any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to happen during lift chain operation. This can result in components to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3% elongation has occurred. In order to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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.

To be able to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more 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 commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the good lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.