

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be lengthened with correct maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is a great way to lengthen the capability of this lift truck part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally making use of a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate to be able to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that can result in several parts to wear out sooner or later. 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 prevent the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer highly 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.

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 assembled 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 takes place when 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. With no good lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced instantly. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.