

Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could be extended with good care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is actually an excellent method in order to extend the capability of this particular forklift part. It is vital to apply oil periodically using a brush or other lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be enough to be able to prevent 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 situation has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to happen all through lift chain operation. This can result in components to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has happened. So as to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can 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 assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if the chain is loose and then suddenly 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 particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains should be replaced instantly. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.