

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be prolonged greatly with correct maintenance and care. Like for example, correct lubrication is the most efficient way so as to extend the service capability of this component. It is vital to apply oil occasionally making use of a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be adequate to be able to avoid whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen during lift chain operation. This can cause components to wear out sooner or later. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3 percent elongation has happened. In order to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens 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 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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 situation happens, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.