

Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be lengthened with good care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is a great technique in order to prolong the capability of this forklift part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application must be sufficient so as to prevent whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is really imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

Through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen that could lead to a few components to wear out in due course. Once there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To ensure correct 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens 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. Without the good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains need to be replaced right away. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.