

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be lengthened with good maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is a great method to lengthen the capability of this particular forklift component. It is essential to apply oil every so often with a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough in order to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is normal for a few metal to metal contact to happen all through lift chain operation. This can result in components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. To be able to avoid the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens 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.

Another 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 put together 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 occurs if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.