

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chains - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be prolonged significantly with good maintenance and care. Like for example, correct lubrication is actually the most effectual way to be able to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is really vital to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough in order to stop whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is common for a few metal to metal contact to happen through lift chain operation. This can lead to parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. To be able to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being 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 signs 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 commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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. Without the good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.