

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains could be prolonged with good maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually an excellent way to be able to lengthen the capability of this forklift component. It is important to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to 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 condition has occurred, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen which can cause a few components to wear out eventually. When there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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.

In order to ensure good lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider 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. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no proper lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, 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.