

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be lengthened greatly with good maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is actually the most effective technique so as to prolong the service capability of this particular part. It is vital to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or whatever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate to be able to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen that can lead to several components to wear out eventually. Once there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring good 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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. With no good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario occurs, the lift chains have to be replaced at once. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.