

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can be prolonged with good care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is actually a great technique to extend the capability of this forklift part. It is really essential to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient to be able to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could lead to several components to wear out in the end. Once there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to avoid the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of 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 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 frequently 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 correct lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.