

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be prolonged completely with correct maintenance and care. Like for example, correct lubrication is actually the most efficient way so as to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is really vital to apply oil periodically using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application should be enough to be able to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place which could result in some components to wear out in due course. As soon as there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be 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 assembled 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 go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the good lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.