

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be prolonged completely with good maintenance and care. Like for example, right lubrication is actually the most efficient way in order to prolong the service capability of this particular component. It is vital to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whatever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be sufficient in order to prevent whichever rust discoloration of oil within 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 extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur which could cause several components to wear out sooner or later. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring correct 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 frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if the chain is loose and then suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no correct lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.