

Forklift Chains

Chains for Forklift - The life of the forklift lift chains could be lengthened with good care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is a great method so as to lengthen the capability of this lift truck component. It is vital to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be adequate so as 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 condition has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to happen through lift chain operation. This can result in components to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. To be able to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place when 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 particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced immediately. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.