

Chains for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be extended greatly with correct care and maintenance. Like for instance, correct lubrication is actually the most efficient way to prolong the service capability of this component. It is really vital to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be sufficient to be able to stop any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to occur through lift chain operation. This could cause components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has happened. To be able to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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.

To be able to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.