

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be prolonged significantly with proper care and maintenance. Like for instance, correct lubrication is the most effectual way so as to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is really essential to apply oil every so often with a brush or whatever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to prevent 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 situation has happened, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

All through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place that can lead to several components to wear out sooner or later. When there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to avoid the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure correct lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications 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 often caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place 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 proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.