

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be lengthened completely with good care and maintenance. Like for example, correct lubrication is actually the most effectual method so as to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is really vital to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough so as to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is extremely important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Throughout lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur which could cause several components to wear out in the long run. As soon as there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to prevent the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be 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 indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience 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 situation happens, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.