

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chains - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be prolonged completely with good maintenance and care. Like for example, right lubrication is the most effective technique in order to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is vital to apply oil every so often using a brush or whatever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough so as to stop 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 situation has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place which can result in several components to wear out in due course. When there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which 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 put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often 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 go through 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 particular scenario takes place, the lift chains should be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.