

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be lengthened significantly with correct maintenance and care. For instance, right lubrication is the most effective method so as to prolong the service capability of this part. It is vital to apply oil every so often utilizing 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 correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is extremely important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to happen throughout lift chain operation. This can lead to parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has occurred. So as to avoid the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To ensure correct 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 assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens 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 correct lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced immediately. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.