

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can be prolonged with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is actually a great technique so as to prolong the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is really vital to apply oil periodically using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be enough in order to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is common for a few metal to metal contact to take place all through lift chain operation. This could cause components to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has occurred. In order to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to 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. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 good lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario occurs, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.