

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could be prolonged with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is actually a great way so as to lengthen the capability of this lift truck component. It is really important to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be enough so as to stop whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to occur through lift chain operation. This could result in parts to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has occurred. In order to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the maker highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider 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 commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens 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 correct lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.