

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be prolonged significantly with proper care and maintenance. Like for instance, correct lubrication is actually the most effective method to be able to lengthen the service capability of this particular component. It is essential to apply oil periodically with a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough so as to prevent any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place during lift chain operation. This could result in components to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3% elongation has occurred. In order to stop 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 3 percent 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.

To be able to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are assembled 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 takes place 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 good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could 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.