

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be lengthened completely with correct care and maintenance. For instance, right lubrication is actually the most effective way in order to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be enough so as to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Throughout lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur that could cause some parts to wear out in the end. As soon as there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic 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 lengthens because of 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, another factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 proper lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.