

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be extended with good care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is a great way in order to prolong the capability of this particular lift truck component. It is essential to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be sufficient in order to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular situation has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

Through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to take place which could result in some parts to wear out eventually. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to avoid the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, 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 could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.