

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be lengthened with correct maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is a great way to be able to prolong the capability of this particular lift truck component. It is important to apply oil periodically using a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be adequate to be able to stop whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

All through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen which can cause a few components to wear out eventually. When there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to prevent the scary likelihood 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 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.

In order 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. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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. Without the proper lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.