

Forklift Chain

Chains for Forklift - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be lengthened with proper maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is an excellent technique so as to extend the capability of this particular forklift component. It is vital to apply oil periodically using a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate to be able to avoid whatever 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 occurred, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is typical for some metal to metal contact to happen throughout lift chain operation. This could result in parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has occurred. In order to avoid the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring correct lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, 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 proper lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains have to be replaced immediately. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.