

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be prolonged with good maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is an excellent technique in order to lengthen the capability of this forklift component. It is essential to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application must be enough to be able to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is really imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

During lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to take place which can result in several 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. In order to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker greatly suggests 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 is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring proper lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no good lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains have to be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.