

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could be extended significantly with good maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is the most effectual technique so as to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is essential to apply oil every so often using a brush or other lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be sufficient to be able to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could result in some components to wear out in due course. As soon as there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to stop 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 lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring good 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 frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place when 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. Without the good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario occurs, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.