

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can be lengthened with correct care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is a great way in order to prolong the capability of this lift truck component. It is really important to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whatever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application should be sufficient in order to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is really imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is normal for a few metal to metal contact to happen through lift chain operation. This can cause components to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. In order to avoid the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To ensure good lift chain maintenance, another 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often 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 proper lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.