

Forklift Chains

Chain for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be prolonged significantly with proper maintenance and care. For example, correct lubrication is actually the most effectual way to lengthen the service capability of this part. It is really important to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be adequate to be able to avoid 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 particular condition has occurred, it is extremely important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place which can lead to some parts 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 avoid the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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 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 assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently 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 good lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.