

Chain for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be lengthened greatly with good maintenance and care. For instance, right lubrication is actually the most efficient way to be able to extend the service capability of this part. It is really important to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be adequate so as to prevent 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 occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to take place which could lead to some components to wear out sooner or later. Once there is 3 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 catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent 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.

Another 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens 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. Without the good lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains need to be replaced instantly. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.