

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be lengthened significantly with proper care and maintenance. Like for example, right lubrication is actually the most effectual technique in order to lengthen the service capability of this particular component. It is vital to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate so as to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is really imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

Through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to occur that could lead to a few components to wear out in the end. As soon as 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 chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens 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.

To ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens if 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. With no proper lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced instantly. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.