

Chains for Forklift

Chains for Forklift - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be prolonged completely with correct maintenance and care. For example, correct lubrication is actually the most effective method to be able to prolong the service capability of this particular part. It is vital to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or whatever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application must be sufficient so as to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

Through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur which can result in a few components to wear out in due course. When there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring proper 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. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often 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 go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario occurs, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.