

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could be prolonged significantly with good care and maintenance. Like for instance, right lubrication is the most efficient method to prolong the service capability of this part. It is essential to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate so as to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place which could cause a few 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. So as to prevent the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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.

Another factor to ensuring correct lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly 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 could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.