

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be prolonged greatly with good care and maintenance. For example, correct lubrication is the most efficient technique to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is essential to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or other lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be adequate to be able to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is extremely important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to occur during lift chain operation. This could cause components to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has occurred. To be able to stop the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer greatly recommends 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 is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, another factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the proper lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains have to be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.