

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains could actually be extended with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is a great method in order to lengthen the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is really vital to apply oil occasionally using a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be enough in order to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to occur throughout lift chain operation. This could lead to components to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. So as to prevent the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could 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 assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when the chain is loose and then suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through 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 particular situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.