

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be extended greatly with correct maintenance and care. Like for example, right lubrication is the most efficient method to be able to prolong the service capability of this component. It is really vital to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or whatever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough so as to prevent any 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 occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is normal for several metal to metal contact to occur throughout lift chain operation. This can lead to parts to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. To be able to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place when the chain is loose and then suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no good lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario occurs, the lift chains should be replaced instantly. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.