

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can be prolonged with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is a great technique to lengthen the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is important to apply oil periodically using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough in order to prevent any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

Through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to take place which can cause several components to wear out in the end. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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.

One more factor to ensuring correct lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications 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 occurs if 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. Without the proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.