

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be extended completely with proper maintenance and care. For instance, correct lubrication is actually the most effective technique to prolong the service capability of this particular part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be adequate so as to avoid whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

All through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen which could lead to a few parts to wear out eventually. As soon as there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about 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. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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 correct lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.