

Chain for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could be prolonged significantly with good maintenance and care. Like for example, right lubrication is the most efficient way in order to lengthen the service capability of this particular component. It is important to apply oil occasionally making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to stop whatever 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 very imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

All through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place which could cause some components to wear out eventually. Once there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer 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 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 happens 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. With no good lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.