

Chain for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be lengthened significantly with correct care and maintenance. Like for example, right lubrication is the most efficient way to be able to prolong the service capability of this particular part. It is important to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough in order to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is normal for a few metal to metal contact to take place through lift chain operation. This can lead to components to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has occurred. In order to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring proper 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 often caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains must be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.