

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could be lengthened with correct maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is an excellent method to extend the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is really essential to apply oil periodically using a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient to be able to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to happen throughout lift chain operation. This can result in parts to wear out sooner or later. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3 percent elongation has happened. In order to stop the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much 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 could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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. Without the correct lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains should be replaced immediately. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.