

Forklift Chains

Chains for Forklift - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be lengthened with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is actually a great way to extend the capability of this forklift part. It is vital to apply oil occasionally using a brush or other lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application must be enough in order to prevent whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular situation has happened, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to happen during lift chain operation. This can lead to parts to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. So as to prevent the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently 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 good lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains have to be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.