

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could be prolonged significantly with correct maintenance and care. Like for instance, right lubrication is the most efficient method to be able to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is essential to apply oil periodically using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be sufficient so as to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could result in several components to wear out eventually. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer greatly 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 is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure correct lift chain maintenance, another factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often 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. With no correct lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.