

Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be extended completely with proper maintenance and care. For instance, correct lubrication is actually the most effectual technique to lengthen the service capability of this particular part. It is vital 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 avoid whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could result in a few parts to wear out in due course. As soon as there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to avoid the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer highly recommends 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 is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place 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 case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced instantly. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.