

Chains for Forklifts

Chain for Forklifts - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be prolonged with good maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually an excellent technique to be able to prolong the capability of this particular forklift part. It is really important to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be enough so as to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to take place through lift chain operation. This could lead to parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3% elongation has occurred. In order to stop the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the maker greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring good lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs 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 often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens 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. Without the correct lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains must be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.