

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be extended with good care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is actually a great way so as to extend the capability of this lift truck component. It is really vital to apply oil periodically using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be enough so as to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could cause some parts to wear out in the end. As soon as there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens 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.

Another factor to ensuring correct lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place 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 proper lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains should be replaced instantly. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.