

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be lengthened with correct maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is a great technique so as to extend the capability of this forklift component. It is vital to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate in order to avoid whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Throughout lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that can lead to a few parts to wear out in the end. Once there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to stop the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly 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 could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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 good lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.