

Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be prolonged greatly with proper maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is actually the most efficient way so as to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is really important to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient to be able to stop whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to happen through lift chain operation. This could result in parts to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3 percent elongation has occurred. So as to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer very much 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.

To be able to ensure good lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs if the chain is loose and then suddenly 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 particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.