

Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be prolonged greatly with good maintenance and care. Like for instance, right lubrication is actually the most effectual way to lengthen the service capability of this particular component. It is essential to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough in order to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to take place throughout lift chain operation. This could cause components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has happened. In order to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when 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 good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains must be replaced at once. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.