

Forklift Chain

Chains for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be lengthened completely with good care and maintenance. Like for example, correct lubrication is actually the most efficient way so as to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is essential to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate to be able to prevent whatever 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 essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to take place through lift chain operation. This can cause components to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has occurred. To be able to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as 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. With no proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.