

Chains for Forklifts

Chain for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be extended completely with good maintenance and care. For example, correct lubrication is actually the most effective method to be able to extend the service capability of this part. It is really important to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be sufficient in order to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for a few metal to metal contact to occur throughout lift chain operation. This could lead to parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. In order to prevent the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being 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 indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens if the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains have to be replaced instantly. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.