

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chains - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be prolonged with good care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is a great way so as to extend the capability of this lift truck component. It is really important to apply oil periodically using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient so as to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is normal for several metal to metal contact to happen all through lift chain operation. This can cause parts to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has happened. In order to prevent the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens 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.

To ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are assembled 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 takes place 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. With no good lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains should be replaced immediately. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.