

Chains for Forklift

Chains for Forklift - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could be prolonged completely with correct maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is the most efficient method to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is essential to apply oil periodically with a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be enough in order to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally 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 a few metal to metal contact to happen throughout lift chain operation. This can lead to components to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. To be able to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic 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 because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure good lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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 proper lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.