

Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be prolonged completely with proper maintenance and care. For instance, right lubrication is the most effective method to prolong the service capability of this component. It is really important to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient so as to stop whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen that could cause some parts to wear out in the end. As soon as there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when 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 correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains should be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.