

Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could actually be lengthened with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is a great way to prolong the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is really essential to apply oil periodically using a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

Through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to occur which can lead to a few parts to wear out sooner or later. Once there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer greatly recommends 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 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 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 commonly 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 go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.