

Chain for Forklifts

Chain for Forklift - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be extended completely with proper care and maintenance. For example, correct lubrication is the most effective method to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally with a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to avoid whatever 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 situation has occurred, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen which could lead to a few components to wear out in the end. Once there is 3% 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 catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which 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. 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.