

Chains for Forklifts

Chains for Forklift - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be lengthened completely with proper maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is actually the most effectual method so as to lengthen the service capability of this particular component. It is important to apply oil periodically with a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough to be able to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur during lift chain operation. This could cause parts to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. So as to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% 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 correct lift chain maintenance, another factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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. Without the good lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.