

Forklift Chain

Chain for Forklift - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be lengthened with correct care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is an excellent way to be able to extend the capability of this particular forklift part. It is really vital to apply oil every so often with a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be adequate so as 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 particular condition has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

Through lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen that can cause several parts to wear out eventually. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs if 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. Without the good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains should be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.