Forklift Chain

Chains for Forklift - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be lengthened greatly with good maintenance and care. Like for example, right lubrication is the most effectual method so as to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is really vital to apply oil every so often using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate so as to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within 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 imperative to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to occur during lift chain operation. This can cause components to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has occurred. In order to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring correct lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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 correct lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.