Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be lengthened greatly with proper maintenance and care. For example, correct lubrication is actually the most effective technique in order to extend the service capability of this part. It is essential to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be adequate in order to prevent 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 condition has happened, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is normal for several metal to metal contact to occur during lift chain operation. This could lead to parts to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has happened. To be able to stop the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure correct 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when 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 proper lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.