Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be lengthened completely with correct maintenance and care. Like for example, correct lubrication is the most efficient method so as to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is vital to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be enough to be able to prevent whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is normal for several metal to metal contact to happen throughout lift chain operation. This can cause parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has happened. In order to stop the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring good lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wear and tear. The lift chains have been assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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. With no proper lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario occurs, the lift chains have to be replaced at once. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.