Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be extended with correct care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is actually a great way so as to lengthen the capability of this particular lift truck component. It is vital to apply oil every so often using a brush or whatever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application must be enough to be able to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is common for a few metal to metal contact to occur throughout lift chain operation. This can cause components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. In order to stop the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring good lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no correct lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains have to be replaced immediately. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.