Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains could be prolonged with good care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is actually an excellent method to be able to prolong the capability of this particular forklift component. It is really vital to apply oil occasionally with a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough to be able to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular situation has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to take place that can cause a few components to wear out in the long run. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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 correct 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. Generally, 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. With no correct lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.