Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be prolonged with good maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is actually a great technique to be able to prolong the capability of this particular forklift component. It is important to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough so as to avoid any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen that can cause several parts to wear out sooner or later. When 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 stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly 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.

Another 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 put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when the chain is loose and then suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the correct lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced immediately. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.