Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can be extended with good maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually a great technique so as to lengthen the capability of this particular forklift component. It is really essential to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be enough 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 properly lubricated. If this particular situation has happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to occur throughout lift chain operation. This could cause parts to wear out sooner or later. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has happened. So as to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if the chain is loose and then suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the proper lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation takes place, the lift chains must be replaced right away. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.