Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be prolonged with correct care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is an excellent method so as to extend the capability of this lift truck component. It is really vital to apply oil every so often with a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate to be able to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is extremely important to lubricate the lift chains at once.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to occur which can result in a few components to wear out eventually. As soon as there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker very much suggests 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 can 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 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 correct lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation takes place, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.