Chains for Forklift

Chains for Forklifts - The life of the lift truck lift chains can be lengthened with good care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is actually a great way so as to lengthen the capability of this lift truck part. It is vital to apply oil periodically with a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be enough to be able to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular situation has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur that can lead to several components to wear out in the long run. When there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three 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.

One more 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.