

## Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be lengthened greatly with good maintenance and care. Like for example, right lubrication is the most efficient way so as to prolong the service capability of this particular component. It is really essential to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to avoid any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

During lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could cause a few components to wear out in the end. As soon as there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to prevent the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to 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 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 assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs when 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. Without the correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation takes place, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.