

## Forklift Chain

Chains for Forklift - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be extended greatly with proper maintenance and care. Like for instance, correct lubrication is actually the most efficient method to be able to prolong the service capability of this part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be sufficient so as to stop whichever 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 condition has happened, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to take place during lift chain operation. This can lead to parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3 percent elongation has occurred. So as to avoid the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from happening, the maker greatly 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 indications 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 often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens 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. With no proper lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.