

## Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could be prolonged significantly with correct care and maintenance. For instance, right lubrication is the most effective method so as to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is important to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be enough to be able to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to happen throughout lift chain operation. This could lead to components to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3% elongation has occurred. So as to avoid the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being 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 often caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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. Without the proper lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced immediately. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.