

## Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be prolonged greatly with good maintenance and care. For instance, right lubrication is actually the most effective way to prolong the service capability of this particular component. It is vital to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be adequate in order to stop whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

All through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen which could cause several parts to wear out eventually. When there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently 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. Without the correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains must be replaced right away. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.