

## Forklift Chain

Chains for Forklift - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be extended greatly with correct maintenance and care. Like for instance, right lubrication is the most effectual way to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is essential to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be enough in order to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to occur all through lift chain operation. This can result in parts to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has happened. To be able to avoid the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure correct lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wearing. Lift chains are assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place 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 good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.