

## Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could be prolonged greatly with correct care and maintenance. For example, right lubrication is the most efficient method so as to prolong the service capability of this component. It is essential to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be enough so as to prevent any rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

All through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur which could lead to some components to wear out sooner or later. As soon as there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to stop 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 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be 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 assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place when 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 proper lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.