

## Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be lengthened completely with good maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is the most effective technique so as to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is really important to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough to be able to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to take place throughout lift chain operation. This could cause parts to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has occurred. In order to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly 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 could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure correct lift chain maintenance, another factor to consider 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. Normally, 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains should be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.