

## Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be prolonged with proper maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually a great way so as to lengthen the capability of this forklift part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whichever lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate so as to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is typical for some metal to metal contact to happen during lift chain operation. This could result in parts to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. So as to stop the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear that 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 assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often 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 situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.