

## Forklift Chains

Chain for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be prolonged significantly with proper maintenance and care. For example, correct lubrication is actually the most effectual way to be able to extend the service capability of this part. It is really vital to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application has to be adequate in order to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for several metal to metal contact to occur throughout lift chain operation. This could cause parts to wear out sooner or later. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has occurred. To be able to stop the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens 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, 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 often caused by shock loading. Shock loading happens when 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. With no good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.