

## Forklift Chain

Chain for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can be prolonged significantly with good care and maintenance. Like for instance, correct lubrication is actually the most effective method to be able to prolong the service capability of this part. It is really vital to apply oil every so often using a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate in order to stop 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 happened, it is very imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Throughout lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur which can result in a few components to wear out in due course. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure good lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are assembled 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. With no good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is vital to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.