

## Forklift Chains

Chain for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on forklifts could be lengthened significantly with correct care and maintenance. Like for example, right lubrication is the most efficient method to be able to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is really vital to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application should be adequate so as to stop whatever 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 extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for some metal to metal contact to happen during lift chain operation. This can lead to parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. In order to stop the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the manufacturer greatly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring proper 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place 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. Without the correct lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced immediately. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.