

## Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chains - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be extended completely with good maintenance and care. Like for example, correct lubrication is the most effective method so as to lengthen the service capability of this component. It is really vital to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application must be sufficient to be able to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is common for a few metal to metal contact to occur during lift chain operation. This can cause components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has happened. In order to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring correct 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 if 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 correct lubrication, in this particular case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains need to be replaced at once. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.