

## Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can be lengthened with proper care and maintenance. Lubricating correctly is a great way in order to lengthen the capability of this particular forklift part. It is really essential to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be sufficient to be able to prevent any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Throughout lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to occur which could result in a few components to wear out in the long run. As soon as there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer 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 proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs 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 commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.