

## Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be prolonged with correct maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually an excellent method so as to prolong the capability of this lift truck component. It is vital to apply oil every so often using a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application must be adequate so as to avoid 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 particular situation has happened, it is really imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Throughout lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen that could cause some components to wear out eventually. 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 occurring, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another 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 put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place if 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 situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation occurs, the lift chains need to be replaced instantly. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.