

## Chain for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be prolonged with proper maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually a great technique to lengthen the capability of this forklift part. It is vital to apply oil every so often with a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be adequate to be able to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

Through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to occur which can result in a few components to wear out eventually. When there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring good lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wear and tear. The lift chains have been assembled so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Generally, 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this situation takes place, the lift chains need to be replaced right away. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.