

## Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of the lift truck lift chains can be prolonged with good care and maintenance. Lubricating properly is actually an excellent technique to prolong the capability of this particular forklift part. It is really vital to apply oil occasionally with a brush or whichever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be enough so as to stop any rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this condition has occurred, it is really essential to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to happen all through lift chain operation. This can lead to components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has occurred. In order to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly 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 experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario happens, the lift chains have to be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.