

## Forklift Chain

Forklift Chains - The life of lift chains on lift trucks could actually be lengthened completely with correct care and maintenance. For instance, right lubrication is the most effective technique to be able to extend the service capability of this particular component. It is vital to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whichever lube application device. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be sufficient so as to prevent any 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 extremely important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Throughout lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place which could lead to several components to wear out in the long run. As soon as there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to avoid the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place when 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 correct 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 imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.