

## Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could be extended significantly with correct care and maintenance. For instance, right lubrication is actually the most effective technique so as to prolong the service capability of this part. It is important to apply oil periodically using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate to be able to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Throughout lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to happen that could cause several components to wear out sooner or later. Once there is 3% elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to prevent the scary chance of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer very much recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches three percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer due to progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more factor to ensuring correct 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is commonly caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place 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 proper lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs in order to ensure even wear.