

## Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chains - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be prolonged completely with correct care and maintenance. For example, right lubrication is the most effectual method to be able to lengthen the service capability of this part. It is really vital to apply oil every so often making use of a brush or other lube application device. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient so as to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

Throughout lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen that can lead to several parts to wear out in the end. When there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to avoid the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer highly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3% elongation. The lift chain lengthens due to progressive joint wear that elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring proper lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs 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 frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 particular situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular scenario takes place, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.