

## Chains for Forklifts

Chains for Forklifts - The life of the lift truck lift chains can actually be lengthened with good maintenance and care. Lubricating correctly is an excellent method to prolong the capability of this forklift component. It is really important to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or whatever lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application should be sufficient so as to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil within the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this condition has occurred, it is very essential to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

It is normal for some metal to metal contact to happen all through lift chain operation. This could cause parts to wear out sooner or later. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when three percent elongation has happened. So as to avoid the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker highly 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 is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To be able to ensure correct lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are assembled 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 all of a sudden 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 case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario occurs, 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.