

## Chain for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be prolonged significantly with correct care and maintenance. For instance, right lubrication is actually the most effectual technique to be able to prolong the service capability of this component. It is important to apply oil periodically with a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be enough in order to prevent whatever 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 situation has happened, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains at once.

During lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to occur which could result in some parts to wear out eventually. As soon as there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. To be able to prevent the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from happening, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain gets longer because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

So as to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for indications of wearing. Lift chains are put together so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is often 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 good lubrication, in this situation, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains have to be replaced immediately. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.