

## Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be prolonged completely with correct maintenance and care. For example, right lubrication is actually the most efficient way so as to lengthen the service capability of this part. It is vital to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application should be sufficient so as to prevent whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration generally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is normal for several metal to metal contact to occur during lift chain operation. This could result in components to wear out in the end. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has happened. To be able to prevent the scary chance of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

In order to ensure good 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 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 happens if 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. Without the good lubrication, in this case, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario happens, the lift chains should be replaced at once. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.