

## Chain for Forklifts

Chain for Forklifts - The life of lift chains on forklifts could be lengthened greatly with good maintenance and care. For instance, correct lubrication is the most effective method so as to prolong the service capability of this component. It is vital to apply oil occasionally making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be enough so as to stop whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration usually signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has happened, it is really imperative to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

Through lift chain operation it is common for some metal to metal contact to take place that could result in some components to wear out in the end. As soon as 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 prevent the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from occurring, the maker highly suggests 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 can be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

To ensure proper lift chain maintenance, one more factor to think about is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs 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 suddenly a load is applied. This causes the chain to experience a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. Without the proper lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins can 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.