

## Chains for Forklift

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on lift trucks can actually be extended greatly with proper maintenance and care. For instance, right lubrication is the most effective method to extend the service capability of this part. It is really essential to apply oil every so often with a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application needs to be sufficient so as to avoid whatever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been properly lubricated. If this situation has happened, it is very important to lubricate the lift chains at once.

It is common for a few metal to metal contact to happen during lift chain operation. This could result in parts to wear out eventually. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out when 3 percent elongation has happened. So as to prevent the scary possibility of a catastrophic lift chain failure from occurring, the maker greatly recommends 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 is capable of being measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

One more 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. Usually, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 good lubrication, in this particular case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this scenario occurs, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs so as to ensure even wear.