

## Forklift Chains

Forklift Chain - The life of the forklift lift chains could actually be extended with proper maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is an excellent technique in order to prolong the capability of this particular lift truck part. It is important to apply oil occasionally utilizing a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application has to be adequate 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 correctly lubricated. If this particular condition has occurred, it is extremely imperative to lubricate the lift chains right away.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to take place all through lift chain operation. This can cause parts to wear out in the long run. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if three percent elongation has happened. So as to prevent the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly recommends that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent 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.

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 assembled so that the clevis pins have their tapered faces lined up with each other. Usually, 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. Without the proper lubrication, in this situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains have to be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to be able to ensure even wear.