

## Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can actually be prolonged greatly with proper maintenance and care. For instance, correct lubrication is the most efficient method in order to prolong the service capability of this particular part. It is really vital to apply oil occasionally using a brush or whatever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application should be adequate so as to stop whatever 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 situation has happened, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains right away.

During lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to take place which could lead to several parts to wear out eventually. Once there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to stop the scary possibility of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer greatly 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.

So as to ensure good lift chain maintenance, one more factor to consider is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs 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 frequently 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 scenario happens, the lift chains must be replaced instantly. It is very important to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.