

## Forklift Chain

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts could actually be extended completely with good care and maintenance. For example, correct lubrication is actually the most effective technique in order to extend the service capability of this component. It is important to apply oil periodically utilizing a brush or whichever lube application tool. The frequency and volume of oil application must be adequate to be able to avoid 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 occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains at once.

During lift chain operation it is normal for some metal to metal contact to occur which could lead to some parts to wear out in the long run. When there is 3 percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. So as to avoid the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the maker highly suggests 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.

In order to ensure good lift chain maintenance, another factor to think about 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 happens 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. With no correct lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation happens, the lift chains must be replaced immediately. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.