

## Chains for Forklifts

Chain for Forklifts - The life of the forklift lift chains can actually be extended with correct maintenance and care. Lubricating properly is actually a great way so as to extend the capability of this particular forklift part. It is vital to apply oil periodically making use of a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application must be adequate to be able to prevent 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 occurred, it is really important to lubricate the lift chains immediately.

Through lift chain operation it is typical for some metal to metal contact to happen that can result in some parts to wear out eventually. When there is three percent elongation on the lift chain, it is considered by industry standards to have worn out the chain. In order to stop the scary likelihood of a disastrous lift chain failure from taking place, the manufacturer greatly suggests that the lift chain be replaced before it reaches 3 percent elongation. The lift chain lengthens because of progressive joint wear which elongates the chain pitch. This elongation could be measured by placing a certain number of pitches under tension.

Another factor to ensuring good lift chain maintenance is to check the clevis pins on the lift chain for signs of wear and tear. The lift chains have been put together so that the tapered faces of the clevis pin are lined up. Normally, rotation of the clevis pins is frequently caused by shock loading. Shock loading takes place when the chain is loose and then all of a sudden a load is applied. This causes the chain to go through a shock as it 'snaps' under the load tension. With no good lubrication, in this particular situation, the pins could rotate in the chain's link. If this situation occurs, the lift chains must be replaced right away. It is imperative to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.