## Chains for Forklifts

Forklift Chain - The life of lift chains on forklifts can be extended completely with good care and maintenance. For instance, correct lubrication is actually the most effectual method so as to extend the service capability of this particular part. It is important to apply oil every so often utilizing a brush or other lube application tool. The volume and frequency of oil application needs to be sufficient in order to avoid whichever rust discoloration of oil in the joints. This reddish brown discoloration normally signals that the lift chains have not been correctly lubricated. If this situation has occurred, it is extremely essential to lubricate the lift chains as soon as possible.

It is typical for a few metal to metal contact to happen through lift chain operation. This could result in components to wear out in time. The industry standard considers a lift chain to be worn out if 3 percent elongation has happened. In order to avoid the scary likelihood of a catastrophic lift chain failure from taking place, the maker greatly suggests 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.

Another factor to ensuring correct 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. Generally, rotation of the clevis pins is often caused by shock loading. Shock loading occurs 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 proper lubrication, in this case, the pins can rotate in the chain's link. If this particular situation happens, the lift chains need to be replaced immediately. It is essential to always replace the lift chains in pairs to ensure even wear.