

Steer Axle for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - Axles are defined by a central shaft that turns a wheel or a gear. The axle on wheeled vehicles can be attached to the wheels and revolved together with them. In this instance, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle may be connected to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn turn all-around the axle. In this particular situation, a bushing or bearing is situated within the hole in the wheel to allow the gear or wheel to rotate all-around the axle.

Whenever referring to cars and trucks, several references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Normally, the word means the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is equally true that the housing surrounding it which is generally known as a casting is likewise known as an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the term means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Thus, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are generally called 'an axle.'

The axles are an essential component in a wheeled motor vehicle. The axle works so as to transmit driving torque to the wheel in a live-axle suspension system. The position of the wheels is maintained by the axles relative to one another and to the vehicle body. In this system the axles should even be able to support the weight of the motor vehicle along with any load. In a non-driving axle, like for instance the front beam axle in various two-wheel drive light trucks and vans and in heavy-duty trucks, there would be no shaft. The axle in this situation serves only as a steering part and as suspension. Various front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

There are other types of suspension systems wherein the axles serve just to transmit driving torque to the wheels. The position and angle of the wheel hubs is a function of the suspension system. This is normally found in the independent suspension found in nearly all new sports utility vehicles, on the front of several light trucks and on the majority of new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It could be fixed to the vehicle frame or body or likewise can be integral in a transaxle. The axle shafts then transmit driving torque to the wheels. The shafts in an independent suspension system are similar to a full floating axle system as in they do not support the vehicle weight.

The vehicle axle has a more vague description, meaning that the parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their type of mechanical connection to one another.