

Steer Axles for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - Axles are defined by a central shaft that rotates a gear or a wheel. The axle on wheeled vehicles could be fixed to the wheels and revolved 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 attached to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn turn around the axle. In this instance, a bushing or bearing is positioned within the hole inside the wheel so as to enable the gear or wheel to revolve all-around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the word axle in some references is used casually. The term normally refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates together 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 around it that is generally referred to as a casting is also called an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the word means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels within an independent suspension are often referred to as 'an axle.'

The axles are an important part 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 particular system the axles should likewise be able to bear the weight of the motor vehicle along with whichever cargo. In a non-driving axle, like 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 particular situation serves only as a steering part and as suspension. Many front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

The axle serves only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in some types of suspension systems. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is part of the functioning of the suspension system found in the independent suspensions of newer sports utility vehicles and on the front of various new light trucks and cars. These systems still consist of a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It can be fixed to the vehicle frame or body or also can be integral in a transaxle. The axle shafts then transmit driving torque to the wheels. The shafts in an independent suspension system are like a full floating axle system as in they do not support the motor vehicle weight.

The vehicle axle has a more ambiguous definition, meaning that the parallel wheels on opposing sides of the motor vehicle, regardless of their kind of mechanical connection to one another.