

Steer Axles for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axles - The description of an axle is a central shaft meant for turning a gear or a wheel. Where wheeled vehicles are concerned, the axle itself may be attached to the wheels and rotate with them. In this particular case, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle may be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn turn around the axle. In this particular situation, a bearing or bushing is located within the hole inside the wheel to enable the wheel or gear to turn all-around the axle.

If referring to trucks and cars, some references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Usually, the word refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates along with the wheel. It is frequently 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 normally referred to as a casting is otherwise referred to as an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the word refers to every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are often referred to as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an essential part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles work in order to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles even maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the motor vehicle body. In this system the axles should likewise be able to support the weight of the vehicle together with whichever load. 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 will be no shaft. The axle in this situation works only as a steering component and as suspension. Lots of front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

There are various types of suspension systems wherein the axles function only to transmit driving torque to the wheels. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is a function of the suspension system. This is often found in the independent suspension found in the majority of brand new sports utility vehicles, on the front of many light trucks and on most brand new cars. These systems still consist of a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It can be attached to the vehicle frame or body or even could 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 motor vehicle weight.

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