

Steer Axles for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - The description of an axle is a central shaft intended for revolving a gear or a wheel. Where wheeled vehicles are concerned, the axle itself could be fixed to the wheels and revolve with them. In this particular situation, 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 may in turn turn all-around the axle. In this situation, a bearing or bushing is positioned within the hole inside the wheel to allow the wheel or gear to rotate all-around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the term axle in some references is utilized casually. The term normally means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves along with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is also true that the housing surrounding it that is generally referred to as a casting is also 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 attached to one another or they are not. Hence, even transverse pairs of wheels in an independent suspension are frequently called 'an axle.'

The axles are an important part in a wheeled motor vehicle. The axle serves 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 must even be able to support the weight of the vehicle plus any load. In a non-driving axle, as in the front beam axle in several two-wheel drive light trucks and vans and in heavy-duty trucks, there would be no shaft. The axle in this particular condition serves just as a steering component and as suspension. Numerous front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

There are different kinds of suspension systems where the axles serve 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 nearly all brand new sports utility vehicles, on the front of various light trucks and on the majority of new cars. These systems still consist of a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It could be attached 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 motor vehicle axle has a more vague description, meaning that the parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their kind of mechanical connection to one another.