

Steer Axles for Forklift

Forklift Steer Axle - Axles are defined by a central shaft that revolves a gear or a wheel. The axle on wheeled vehicles may be fixed to the wheels and revolved together with them. In this instance, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle could be connected to its surroundings and the wheels can in turn revolve all-around the axle. In this situation, a bearing or bushing is located inside the hole in the wheel to allow the wheel or gear to turn around the axle.

Whenever referring to trucks and cars, some references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Normally, the word refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves with the wheel. It is usually bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is likewise true that the housing around it that is usually referred to as a casting is likewise called an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the word refers to 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 generally 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 motor vehicle body. In this system the axles should also be able to bear the weight of the motor vehicle plus whatever cargo. In a non-driving axle, like 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 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 kinds of suspension systems wherein the axles operate only to transmit driving torque to the wheels. The position and angle of the wheel hubs is a function of the suspension system. This is usually found in the independent suspension found in most brand new SUV's, on the front of many light trucks and on the majority of brand new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have fixed axle housing tubes. It could be attached to the motor vehicle frame or body or even 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.

Last but not least, in reference to a vehicle, 'axle,' has a more vague description. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the motor vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection kind to one another and the motor vehicle body or frame.