

Steer Axles for Forklift

Forklift Steer Axle - The definition of an axle is a central shaft intended for turning a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled vehicles are concerned, the axle itself may be attached to the wheels and turn together with them. In this situation, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle may be attached to its surroundings and the wheels can in turn rotate all-around the axle. In this case, a bearing or bushing is placed in the hole within the wheel to allow the gear or wheel to rotate all-around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the word axle in some references is used casually. The word usually means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves together with the wheel. It is frequently bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is likewise true that the housing around it that is normally called a casting is otherwise known as an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the word means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are attached to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels in an independent suspension are generally known as 'an axle.'

The axles are an integral part in a wheeled 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 must likewise be able to bear the weight of the vehicle together with any cargo. In a non-driving axle, like for instance the front beam axle in several two-wheel drive light trucks and vans and in heavy-duty trucks, there will be no shaft. The axle in this condition serves just as a steering component and as suspension. A lot of front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

The axle works only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in various kinds of suspension systems. The position and angle of the wheel hubs is part of the operating of the suspension system found in the independent suspensions of newer sports utility vehicles and on the front of numerous new light trucks and 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 could 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 vehicle, regardless of their type of mechanical connection to one another.