

Steer Axles for Forklift

Forklift Steer Axles - Axles are defined by a central shaft that turns a wheel or a gear. The axle on wheeled motor vehicles could be fixed to the wheels and turned along with them. In this situation, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle could be connected to its surroundings and the wheels can in turn revolve around the axle. In this case, a bearing or bushing is situated within the hole inside the wheel to be able to enable the gear or wheel to turn around the axle.

With trucks and cars, the word axle in some references is utilized casually. The term normally refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves with the wheel. It is frequently bolted in fixed relation to it and called an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is also true that the housing around it that is generally referred to as a casting is also known as an 'axle' or sometimes 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. Hence, even transverse pairs of wheels in an independent suspension are often called 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an integral part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles likewise maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the motor vehicle body. In this system the axles must even be able to support the weight of the vehicle plus whichever 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 will be no shaft. The axle in this condition serves only as a steering component and as suspension. Several front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

There are various kinds of suspension systems where the axles serve just 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 seen in the independent suspension found in most brand new SUV's, on the front of numerous light trucks and on nearly all new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It could be connected to the vehicle body or frame 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 like a full floating axle system as in they do not support the motor vehicle weight.

Last but not least, with regards to a vehicle, 'axle,' has a more ambiguous 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.