

Steer Axle for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axles - The definition of an axle is a central shaft for rotating a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself may be attached to the wheels and rotate together with them. In this case, 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 may in turn rotate all-around the axle. In this instance, a bushing or bearing is placed in the hole in the wheel to be able to allow the wheel or gear to revolve around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the word axle in some references is utilized casually. The word generally means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves along with the wheel. It is frequently bolted in fixed relation to it and referred to as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is equally true that the housing around it that is usually known as a casting is likewise known as an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the term refers to every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are attached to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels within an independent suspension are frequently called 'an axle.'

The axles are an important component in a wheeled motor vehicle. The axle works 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 must also be able to support the weight of the vehicle together with any cargo. In a non-driving axle, like for example the front beam axle in several two-wheel drive light vans and trucks and in heavy-duty trucks, there will be no shaft. The axle in this situation serves only as a steering part and as suspension. Many front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

The axle serves only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in some kinds of suspension systems. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is part of the functioning of the suspension system found in the independent suspensions of new SUVs and on the front of various new cars and light trucks. These systems still have a differential but it does not have connected axle housing tubes. It can be fixed to the vehicle frame or body or likewise 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 of all, in reference to a motor vehicle, 'axle,' has a more vague definition. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection type to one another and the motor vehicle body or frame.