

Steer Axles for Forklifts

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

Whenever referring to trucks and cars, several references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Usually, the term means the 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' or an 'axle shaft'. It is equally true that the housing surrounding it which is usually known as a casting is likewise called 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 generally referred to as 'an axle.'

The axles are an essential part in a wheeled vehicle. The axle works in order 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 also be able to bear the weight of the motor vehicle along 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 condition serves just as a steering component and as suspension. Numerous front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

The axle works only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in some types of suspension systems. The position and angle 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 several new cars and light trucks. These systems still have a differential but it does not have connected axle housing tubes. It could be connected to the vehicle body or frame or also could 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.

To finish, with regards to a vehicle, 'axle,' has a more ambiguous classification. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection kind to one another and the vehicle body or frame.