

Steer Axles for Forklifts

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

When referring to trucks and cars, some references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Generally, the word means the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves along with the wheel. It is usually bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is also true that the housing around it which is usually known as a casting is otherwise referred to as an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the word refers to every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are attached to one another or they are not. Thus, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are frequently referred to as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled vehicle, axles are an important component. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles work to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles even maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the motor vehicle body. In this particular system the axles should likewise be able to support the weight of the vehicle along with whatever cargo. In a non-driving axle, as in 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 particular situation serves just as a steering part and as suspension. Lots of front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

There are different types of suspension systems wherein the axles work 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 often found in the independent suspension found in nearly all new sports utility vehicles, on the front of numerous 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 can be attached to the motor vehicle body or frame or likewise 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 motor vehicle, regardless of their type of mechanical connection to one another.