

Steer Axle for Forklift

Steer Axles for Forklifts - The definition of an axle is a central shaft intended for turning a gear or a wheel. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself can be fixed to the wheels and turn along with them. In this case, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle could be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels may in turn turn around the axle. In this case, a bearing or bushing is placed in the hole in the wheel to enable the wheel or gear to revolve around the axle.

With trucks and cars, the word axle in several references is used casually. The word normally means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates together with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and referred to as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is equally true that the housing surrounding it which is usually referred to as a casting is otherwise called an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the term means 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 generally called 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an integral component. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles work 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 along with whichever load. In a non-driving axle, like for example the front beam axle in some two-wheel drive light vans and trucks and in heavy-duty trucks, there will be no shaft. The axle in this particular situation serves just as a steering component and as suspension. Numerous front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

The axle works only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in various types of suspension systems. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is part of the operating of the suspension system found in the independent suspensions of new sports utility vehicles and on the front of various new cars and light trucks. 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 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 like a full floating axle system as in they do not support the vehicle weight.

The vehicle axle has a more vague description, meaning that the parallel wheels on opposing sides of the motor vehicle, regardless of their kind of mechanical connection to one another.