

Steer Axle for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - The definition of an axle is a central shaft utilized for revolving a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled vehicles are concerned, the axle itself can be fixed to the wheels and turn together with them. In this case, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle could be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels can in turn turn all-around the axle. In this particular case, a bearing or bushing is positioned inside the hole in the wheel to be able to enable the gear or wheel to turn all-around the axle.

If referring to trucks and cars, some references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Usually, the word means the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates along with the wheel. It is usually bolted in fixed relation to it and called an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is also true that the housing around it that is usually known as a casting is also called an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the term means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Thus, even transverse pairs of wheels in an independent suspension are often known as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled vehicle, axles are an integral part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles even maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the vehicle body. In this particular system the axles should also be able to bear the weight of the motor vehicle plus whatever cargo. In a non-driving axle, like for example the front beam axle in various 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 serves just to transmit driving torque to the wheels in several types of suspension systems. The position and angle of the wheel hubs is part of the operating of the suspension system seen in the independent suspensions of new SUVs and on the front of several new light trucks and cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have fixed axle housing tubes. It can be connected to the vehicle body or frame 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 vehicle weight.

Lastly, in reference to a motor vehicle, 'axle,' has a more vague description. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection type to one another and the vehicle frame or body.