

Steer Axle for Forklift

Steer Axle for Forklifts - The description of an axle is a central shaft meant for turning a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself could be connected to the wheels and turn together with them. In this situation, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle may be connected to its surroundings and the wheels can in turn rotate all-around the axle. In this situation, a bushing or bearing is placed inside the hole in the wheel in order to enable the gear or wheel to turn around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the word axle in several references is used casually. The word usually refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves together with the wheel. It is usually bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is equally true that the housing surrounding it which is usually known as a casting is also called an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the word refers to every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are attached to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are frequently known as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an integral part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles also maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the vehicle body. In this system the axles must even be able to support the weight of the vehicle together with any 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 would be no shaft. The axle in this condition serves only as a steering part and as suspension. Various front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

There are other types of suspension systems wherein the axles function 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 usually seen in the independent suspension found in most new SUV's, on the front of many light trucks and on most brand new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have connected axle housing tubes. It can be connected to the 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 similar to a full floating axle system as in they do not support the vehicle weight.

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