

Forklift Steer Axles

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

With cars and trucks, the word axle in some references is utilized casually. The term normally refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself turns 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 likewise true that the housing around it which is normally called a casting is otherwise called an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the term means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels in an independent suspension are frequently called 'an axle.'

In a wheeled vehicle, axles are an important part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles work in order 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 system the axles must also be able to support the weight of the motor vehicle plus any cargo. In a non-driving axle, like for instance 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 situation works only as a steering component and as suspension. Lots of front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

There are various types of suspension systems wherein the axles function only to transmit driving torque to the wheels. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is a function of the suspension system. This is often found in the independent suspension seen in nearly all new SUV's, on the front of various light trucks and on nearly all new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have fixed axle housing tubes. It could be fixed to the vehicle frame or body or even 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.

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