Steer Axles for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - The definition of an axle is a central shaft intended for rotating a gear or a wheel. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself can be fixed to the wheels and revolve together with them. In this particular instance, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle can be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn rotate around the axle. In this situation, a bushing or bearing is located in the hole inside the wheel to allow the gear or wheel to rotate around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the word axle in several references is utilized casually. The term normally means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates together with the wheel. It is frequently bolted in fixed relation to it and referred to as an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is also true that the housing surrounding it which is normally called a casting is also known as 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. Thus, even transverse pairs of wheels within an independent suspension are often called 'an axle.'

In a wheeled vehicle, axles are an essential part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles function in order to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles likewise maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the vehicle body. In this system the axles should also be able to bear the weight of the motor vehicle plus whichever cargo. In a non-driving axle, as in 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 condition works only as a steering component and as suspension. Numerous front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

The axle works only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in several 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 newer SUVs and on the front of numerous brand new light trucks and cars. These systems still consist of a differential but it does not have connected axle housing tubes. It can be fixed to the vehicle frame or body or even 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 motor vehicle weight.

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