Steer Axle for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - The description of an axle is a central shaft utilized for revolving a gear or a wheel. Where wheeled vehicles are concerned, the axle itself may be attached to the wheels and rotate together with them. In this situation, 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 can in turn turn all-around the axle. In this instance, a bushing or bearing is situated within the hole in the wheel in order to allow the gear or wheel to revolve all-around the axle.

Whenever referring to cars and trucks, some references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Normally, the word refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself turns together with the wheel. It is frequently bolted in fixed relation to it and referred to as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is equally true that the housing around it that is usually known as a casting is likewise known as an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the term refers to 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 referred to as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an integral component. 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 motor vehicle body. In this system the axles must likewise be able to support the weight of the vehicle plus whatever load. In a non-driving axle, like for instance the front beam axle in various two-wheel drive light trucks and vans and in heavy-duty trucks, there will be no shaft. The axle in this particular situation serves just as a steering part and as suspension. Various front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

There are different kinds of suspension systems wherein the axles operate just to transmit driving torque to the wheels. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is a function of the suspension system. This is usually found in the independent suspension seen in nearly all new sports utility vehicles, on the front of various light trucks and on most new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It could be attached to the vehicle frame or body or also can 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.

Last but not least, with regards to a motor vehicle, 'axle,' has a more ambiguous description. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection type to one another and the motor vehicle frame or body.