Steer Axles for Forklift

Forklift Steer Axle - The classification of an axle is a central shaft used for turning a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself could be fixed to the wheels and rotate with them. In this particular case, bearings or bushings 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 could in turn turn around the axle. In this instance, a bushing or bearing is positioned in the hole within the wheel in order to enable the gear or wheel to rotate all-around the axle.

With trucks and cars, the term axle in some references is used casually. The word generally refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself turns together with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is also true that the housing surrounding it that is normally called a casting is likewise known as an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the word 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 frequently known as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an integral component. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles function in order to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles also maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the motor vehicle body. In this system the axles must even be able to bear the weight of the vehicle along with any cargo. In a non-driving axle, like the front beam axle in several 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 component and as suspension. A lot of front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

There are various types of suspension systems wherein the axles work 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 often seen in the independent suspension found in the majority of new SUV's, on the front of various light trucks and on nearly all brand new cars. These systems still consist of a differential but it does not have fixed axle housing tubes. It could be attached to the motor vehicle body or frame 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 similar to a full floating axle system as in they do not support the vehicle weight.

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