Steer Axles for Forklift

Forklift Steer Axle - Axles are defined by a central shaft that turns a gear or a wheel. The axle on wheeled motor vehicles can be attached to the wheels and turned along 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 may in turn turn around the axle. In this instance, a bearing or bushing is positioned in the hole inside the wheel so as to enable the gear or wheel to turn all-around the axle.

With trucks and cars, the term axle in several references is used casually. The word generally means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates along with the wheel. It is usually bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle' or an 'axle shaft'. It is also true that the housing surrounding it which is usually called a casting is otherwise referred to as an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the word means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are often referred to as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled vehicle, axles are an integral part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve 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 vehicle body. In this system the axles should also be able to support the weight of the vehicle together with any cargo. In a non-driving axle, like 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 particular situation works just as a steering part and as suspension. Several front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

The axle serves only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in some types of suspension systems. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is part of the functioning of the suspension system found in the independent suspensions of new SUVs and on the front of several brand new cars and light trucks. 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 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 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 classification. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the motor vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection kind to one another and the motor vehicle body or frame.