Steer Axles for Forklifts

Steer Axle for Forklifts - The classification of an axle is a central shaft meant for turning a gear or a wheel. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself can be connected to the wheels and revolve together with them. In this situation, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle may be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn turn all-around the axle. In this case, a bearing or bushing is positioned in the hole within the wheel so as to allow the wheel or gear to revolve around the axle.

With trucks and cars, the term axle in several references is used casually. The term normally refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself revolves together with the wheel. It is usually bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is also true that the housing around it that is usually called a casting is otherwise referred to as an 'axle' or sometimes 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 within 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 particular system the axles should also be able to bear the weight of the vehicle plus whatever load. In a non-driving axle, as in the front beam axle in various 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 part and as suspension. Various front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

The axle serves just to transmit driving torque to the wheels in several kinds of suspension systems. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is part of the functioning of the suspension system seen in the independent suspensions of newer SUVs and on the front of numerous new light trucks and cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have connected axle housing tubes. It could be connected to the vehicle frame or body or also 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 vehicle weight.

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