Steer Axles for Forklift

Forklift Steer Axle - Axles are defined by a central shaft which turns a gear or a wheel. The axle on wheeled vehicles can be connected to the wheels and turned with them. In this situation, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle could be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels may in turn rotate around the axle. In this case, a bearing or bushing is located in the hole inside the wheel in order to allow the gear or wheel to revolve all-around the axle.

Whenever referring to trucks and cars, several references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Generally, the word means the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates along with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is also true that the housing surrounding it that is normally referred to as a casting is otherwise called an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader definition of the word refers to 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 generally called 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an important component. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve to be able 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 particular system the axles must also be able to support the weight of the vehicle along with whatever cargo. In a non-driving axle, as in the front beam axle in several two-wheel drive light trucks and vans and in heavy-duty trucks, there will be no shaft. The axle in this particular situation works only as a steering part and as suspension. Various front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

The axle serves only to transmit driving torque to the wheels in several kinds of suspension systems. The position and angle of the wheel hubs is part of the functioning of the suspension system found in the independent suspensions of new sports utility vehicles and on the front of numerous brand new cars and light trucks. These systems still have a differential but it does not have connected axle housing tubes. It could be fixed to the motor vehicle body or frame or likewise 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.

Last but not least, in reference to a 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 vehicle body or frame.