Pinion for Forklift

Forklift Pinion - The main axis, known as the king pin, is seen in the steering machine of a lift truck. The first design was a steel pin which the movable steerable wheel was mounted to the suspension. As it could freely revolve on a single axis, it restricted the levels of freedom of motion of the remainder of the front suspension. During the 1950s, the time its bearings were replaced by ball joints, more comprehensive suspension designs became obtainable to designers. King pin suspensions are nevertheless utilized on some heavy trucks as they have the advantage of being capable of lifting much heavier load.

The new designs of the king pin no longer restrict to moving like a pin. Nowadays, the term may not even refer to an actual pin but the axis where the steered wheels turn.

The KPI or likewise known as kingpin inclination could likewise be referred to as the SAI or steering axis inclination. These terms define the kingpin if it is positioned at an angle relative to the true vertical line as viewed from the front or back of the lift truck. This has a major effect on the steering, making it likely to return to the centre or straight ahead position. The centre arrangement is where the wheel is at its uppermost position relative to the suspended body of the lift truck. The vehicles' weight tends to turn the king pin to this position.

Another impact of the kingpin inclination is to set the scrub radius of the steered wheel. The scrub radius is the offset among the tire's contact point with the road surface and the projected axis of the steering down through the king pin. If these points coincide, the scrub radius is defined as zero. Though a zero scrub radius is likely without an inclined king pin, it needs a deeply dished wheel so as to maintain that the king pin is at the centerline of the wheel. It is more sensible to tilt the king pin and make use of a less dished wheel. This also provides the self-centering effect.