

Evaluation of steering on vehicle involved in accident

1. Following accidents with minor body damage (e.g. bent fender, side member, side paneling, rear end, etc.) the steering can be reused under the following conditions:
 - a) Front axle parts such as front axle carrier, steering knuckles, wishbones, tie rods and center links, pitman arm, knuckle arm and idler arm not damaged and steering shaft not twisted at splined shaft.
 - b) The front axle has not been or is not suspected of being subjected to excessive stress.
 - c) The steering can be turned by hand at the steering joint from stop to stop without sticking.
2. For safety reasons the steering should be replaced when:
 - a) Parts of the front axle or steering linkage have been permanently deformed.
 - b) Measurement of the vehicle confirms that the front axle has been subjected to excessive stress.

General

When evaluating accident damage to the steering resulting from an accident observe the following:

Damage which is not recognizable externally, can be caused by a shock transferred to the steering via the steering linkage.

For this reason the entire steering system should be checked visually and microfluxed. Since such a test is not possible in most workshops, replace the steering in cases of doubt.

If, contrary to the opinion of the responsible workshop personnel, the damage assessor believes that the steering can remain in the vehicle, we recommend having the assessor sign to confirm his decision.