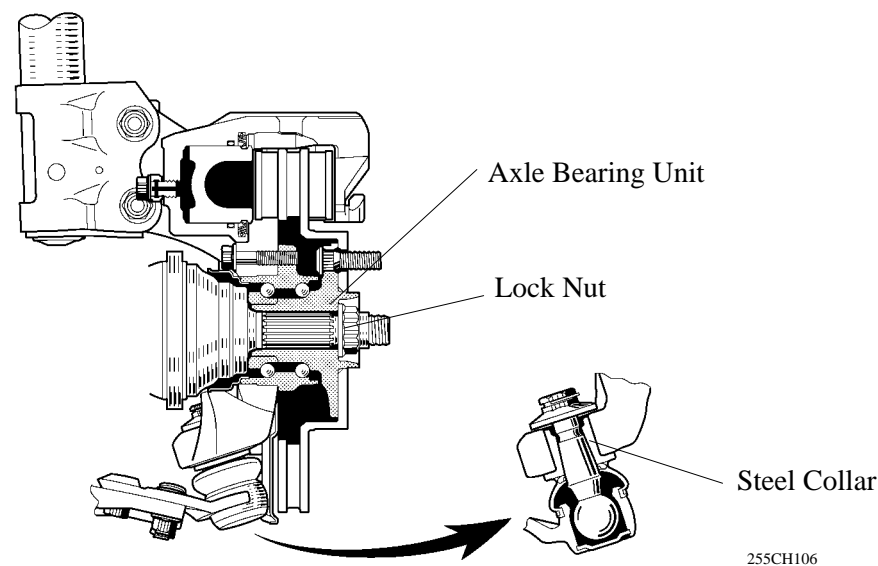


■ AXLE

1. Front Axle

- To reduce the weight of the steering knuckles on the front axle, the '04 Prius has adopted steering knuckles made of aluminum.
- Along with the adoption of the steering knuckles made of aluminum, axle bearing units in which the axle bearing is integrated with the hub flange have been adopted. The axle bearing units use double-row angular ball bearings that offer low rolling resistance.
- The area of the steering knuckle that mounts to the lower ball joint is provided with a steel collar, which uses the same joining construction as in the past.
- A lock nut (12-point) has been adopted and staked for tightening the axle hub in order to ensure the tightening performance. This nut cannot be reused.



Service Tip

The torque for tightening the steering knuckle made of aluminum differs from the conventional type. For details, refer to the 2004 Prius Repair Manual (Pub. No. RM1075U).

2. Rear Axle

- The rear axle uses a double-row angular ball bearing which offers low rolling resistance.
- Part of the inner race is integrated with the shaft, optimizing rigidity.

