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The work demands and perceived work ability of timber-harvesting entrepreneurs and employees in the restructuring of the forest industry

The purpose of this study is to determine how work requirement factors are related to the work ability of timber-harvesting professionals in the restructuring of the forest industry. The study's electronic survey involved 87 forest machine entrepreneurs and 235 drivers. The Mann-Whitney U test, exploratory factor analysis, and logistic regression analysis were used for the statistical analysis. Work ability was assessed by three questions: What score do you currently give to your work ability compared with your lifetime best? What score do you give to your work ability in relation to the mental demands of the job? What score do you give to your work ability in relation to the physical demands of the job? The theoretical framework of the study was the Job Demands-Resources model. The experience of positive change was associated with good work ability. Correspondingly, increased uncertainty, workload, efficiency requirements, and responsibility increased the probability of impaired work ability. Anticipating and identifying work requirements and the development of work are priority areas for supporting work ability as work changes.