The construction workforce is aging. The median age of construction workers in 2000 was 37.9; in 2010, the median age was 40.4.

Although construction work is physically demanding, older workers may hesitate to switch to less strenuous occupations because a change would entail reduced income or reduced access to pension and health benefits.

Most studies suggest that injuries are less frequent but more severe among older construction workers.

In general, workers’ compensation costs increase with the age of workers, in part due to greater lost work time per incident.

Employers can mitigate injury risks to older workers by adapting the workplace, for example by selecting lighter materials, providing material handling equipment, and by using ergonomic principles to fit the work to the worker.

Employers who resist adapting work to older workers are susceptible to losing valuable, experienced employees and incurring significant recruitment and training costs.

For more information, contact:
Natalie Schwatka: nvschwatka@gmail.com

See journal article:
http://bit.ly/1eyjOmv

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