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## Mayor Jacobs' Small Business Series Highlights Expoquip

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs interviewed Jorge Sanabria, owner of Expoquip Inc., as part of his small business series. Founded in 1998, Expoquip distributes and rents heavy equipment and parts, both locally and internationally in more than 80 countries.

Mayor Jacobs' bi-weekly small business series is comprised of video interviews airing Wednesdays on the county and Mayor's various social media platforms. The discussions offer folks the chance to talk about what they do; highlight their work; and share any future plans.

Born in Columbia, South America, Sanabria came to the U.S. at 16 working his first job in a warehouse for a company that sold replacement parts for heavy machinery. Remembering the need for machine parts back home, Sanabria expanded that company's international department and eventually left to start Expoquip.

"I saw all these parts and components I was putting away and I remembered my uncle back in Columbia having some of this equipment," said Sanabria. "I remember sitting on those bulldozers and I thought we need to be selling this stuff overseas because I understand how hard it is to get stuff from the United States. So, I expanded the international department and then eventually founded Expoquip."

Headquartered in Knoxville, Expoquip can reach its customers within a day or two days, a fact Sanabria says most people probably don't realize.

"Many people don't realize Tennessee is a great point of delivery. We can be on the porch within a day or two days. All our merchandise is shipped through the ports of Savannah, Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, and Texas. Most people think you have to be in a port city. This is not the case." said Sanabria.

The Mayor and Sanabria further discussed the positive impact of having his business in Knox County and why Sanabria believes his employees are the company's biggest asset.

To hear more of what was said during the interview, check out the <u>video</u>.