



1
00:00:00,030 --> 00:00:06,120
[music, quiet talking]

2
00:00:06,140 --> 00:00:11,180
My name is Dennis Reuter, and I'm the instrument scientist for the Ralph instrument on New Horizons.

3
00:00:14,100 --> 00:00:16,180
I don't think that Pluto cares what it's called.

4
00:00:16,200 --> 00:00:22,550
We know that we're going out and looking at a part of the solar system that's never been explored in situ before

5
00:00:22,570 --> 00:00:25,980
in place before, and that's what's exciting about the mission.

6
00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:34,030
New Horizons is a mission to the Pluto system, and beyond,

7
00:00:34,050 --> 00:00:37,450
now that we recognize that this is all part of the Kuiper Belt,

8
00:00:37,470 --> 00:00:42,580
a undisturbed area left over from the beginning of the solar system.

9
00:00:46,200 --> 00:00:51,600
The Ralph instrument is a combined spectral imager, we look in the infrared to get spectra that tells us

10
00:00:51,620 --> 00:00:55,730
what materials are on the surface and what their temperatures are and how they're distributed,

11
00:00:55,750 --> 00:01:03,650
and it also has color imagers on it, red, blue, near-infrared and a channel for methane all in one small measure

12
00:01:03,670 --> 00:01:10,070
The data will tell us a lot about what has gone on on Pluto since its formation four billion years ago.

13
00:01:14,100 --> 00:01:20,210

Pluto and the Kuiper Belt represent a new object in the solar system that has never really been explored.

14

00:01:20,230 --> 00:01:24,640

We've taken close-up images of all the planets and of many of the moons around the planets.

15

00:01:24,660 --> 00:01:29,910

The Kuiper Belt, that large area that's out there, really has never had a spacecraft visit it,