A This is the top end of a research machine called the friction visualization rig and consists of a sample, holding arm, which is this large bar on the top, a specimen holder, and this thing right here my finger is covering is a brake lining.

It rubs against a quartz disc which is this disc seen right here, and the whole works is turned by a motor out of sight underneath here to rotate around.

Now, to be able to see the lower surface of this friction material sample, we have a mirror called a front surface mirror, so this image right in here is looking up at that sample of brake lining.

So for this particular study, we have a microscope illuminator bringing light in here and we have a camera or a microscope that looks in at the sample of brake lining to see the rubbing process.

Q Okay. So what would you use this machine for then?

A Understanding what happens in the rubbing process.