

REDLANDS COAST

REDLANDS COAST

Australian property company teams up with drug swab agency to test more properties for illicit substances

More Queensland properties will be privately drug tested under a new agreement between a leading Australian property firm and specialised laboratory.

Kara Sonter, Redlands Community News

Subscriber only | January 17, 2020 11:00am



Drug tests of properties will be carried out through a new partnership between Acumentis and Swab First. Methamphetamine pure crystals being heated in a glass pipe by a police drugs officer during a controlled demonstration. PICTURE: File

MORE Queensland properties will be privately drug tested under a new agreement between a leading Australian property firm and laboratory.

[Full Digital Access: 50% off for the first 12 weeks \(conditions apply\)](#)

Drug swab laboratory Swab First has teamed up with Australian property valuation and consultancy firm Acumentis for a revolutionary drug screening program in the residential and commercial property sector.

The drug screening technology can identify drug residue in residential and commercial buildings caused by manufacturing, trafficking and use of illicit substances.

In a joint statement by the companies, they labelled drug contamination as “not unlike the Asbestos situation that drove legislation changes and provided compensation channels for victims during the latter part of the 20th Century”.

“Residue from this activity is responsible for an array of mental and respiratory health issues. “Homeowners, agents are landlords are exposed to commercial risk through unlawful amendments to property, cost of remediation and clean up, along with a duty of care to staff and tenants,” it read.



Acumentis' Geoff Duffield says new a drug testing program will help give those in the property market peace of mind. PICTURE: AAP/Richard Walker

Acumentis state director, residential Queensland Geoff Duffield, who is based in Brisbane, said the partnership was leading the way in a shift in how properties are considered by buyers, sellers and owners.

He said concerns about drug contamination — especially from methamphetamine — of properties could have an impact on valuation and the simple drug test provided those in the property market with “peace of mind”.

[JAILED MAN FINDS OUT HE’S A DAD IN COURTROOM](#)

“It’s ahead of the curve on this emerging issue,” Mr Duffield said.

“The product I’ve seen and used is very simple.

“The testing is conclusive and results only take a short while to come through.”

According to Swab First, the sample collection and analysis process was derived from border security equipment.

They said the technology’s place in the market was alongside all other condition assessments like pest and building inspections at the point of sale or tenancy inspection.

The new agreement will see Acumentis add the Swab First Premium Property Screen products to their suite of offerings primarily for property and banking sectors, with a focus on mortgagee in possession property listings.

Do you have a local story? Email editorial@redlandscommunitynews.com.au

[FOLLOW REDLANDS COMMUNITY NEWS ON FACEBOOK](#)