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Brisbane workers tested for drugs



■ Drug testing . . . employers want to follow the lead of police and conduct random drug tests. XF

By BIANCA SULLIVAN

FRONTLINE Diagnostics director Michael White said his company provided drug tests to more than 100 Brisbane companies.

"I think companies realise that turning a blind eye to drugs will kill the company," Mr White said in relation to calls for drug testing to be made mandatory in the workplace.

"It's the safety of the work-

place we are concerned about," Mr White said blood, urine and saliva were commonly used for drug screenings, with results known within two minutes.

"I don't think it's necessary to make drug testing mandatory in all workplaces," he said.

"But taxi drivers are not tested and I think they should be. People who fix planes and make them air-worthy are not tested, mech-

anics have probably never been tested.

"I think teachers should be drug tested because they have a serious responsibility for our children and doctors and nurses who are over worked and have very easy access to drugs."

While drug testing is popular in construction and mining industries, police officers, army personnel and truck drivers are also subjected to random drug tests.