

These are safety devices

WARNING: Which one can you trust?



These are typical miniature circuit breakers (MCBs), very similar in appearance. They are installed in your distribution board. Their purpose is to protect you and your assets from faults in your electrical system. Faults can and do result in **fires, destruction of possessions, injury and death.**

But one of them **WILL NOT COMPLY** with safety regulations and will not do the job.

ALL OVER SOUTH AFRICA THERE ARE MILLIONS OF UNSAFE ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS ON OFFER & IN USE. WHAT TO DO?

- Buy from **reputable distributors** and outlets.
- Beware of **copies** of prominent brands.
- Be suspicious of **prices** lower than for other, similar products/services.
- Be suspicious of **lack of information** on or with the product packaging.
- Ask the supplier for **references** to other users – and contact them.
- When dealing with an electrical contractor, ask for proof of registration and about its membership of the **ECA** (Electrical Contractors Association). Call the ECA in your region to check credentials.
- Be critical of a suspect installation or a **Certificate of Compliance (COC)** that is issued too easily.
- Ask the supplier to prove **compliance with regulations.**
- Look for **certification marks** such as **SABS, VDE and UL.** (Note that the SABS mark is not necessarily a substitute for the LOA).
- Beware of **fraudulent use** of well-known certification emblems, such as the SABS mark.
- A **“CE”** mark is not proof of independent testing and not necessarily proof of conformity.

SAFEhouse members have signed a code of conduct: Your assurance of commitment to offer only safe electrical products and services.

SAFEhouse membership is suppliers' assurance to customers of responsible behaviour and of customers' safety as a priority. SAFEhouse members regulate themselves. SAFEhouse is primarily a communications association that informs users of safety requirements and occurrences of non-compliance with such requirements.



The SAFEhouse Association is a non-profit, industry organisation committed to the fight against sub-standard, unsafe electrical products and services.

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