

Best practice

- Always apply a pull test to each connection after it is made – ensure that the tug is not excessive.

The consumer unit and associated devices

- Devices such as circuit-breakers and RCBOs from different manufacturers must not be mixed unless documentation is obtained from the consumer unit manufacturer which confirms that the specific mixed arrangement is suitable for use. Further guidance on this can be found on the BEAMA website at www.beama.org.uk/resourceLibrary/safe-selection-of-devices-for-installation-in-assemblies-.html
- Do not exceed the terminal capacity of a device – In general it is not recommended to place more than three conductors in any one terminal.
- All terminations within the consumer unit, including those made during factory assembly, should be checked at original installation and at every subsequent periodic inspection - this is now required by *BS 7671*.
- Care should be taken to ensure conductors are not trapped or do not apply stress to the terminations when the front cover is fitted to a consumer unit.
- Ensure that all devices are engaged correctly on the DIN rail.
- Ensure that busbar tangs/fingers are located correctly in the terminal (see Fig 13).



Fig 13. Circuit-breaker on left-hand side incorrectly installed with busbar tang/finger outside the termination clamp