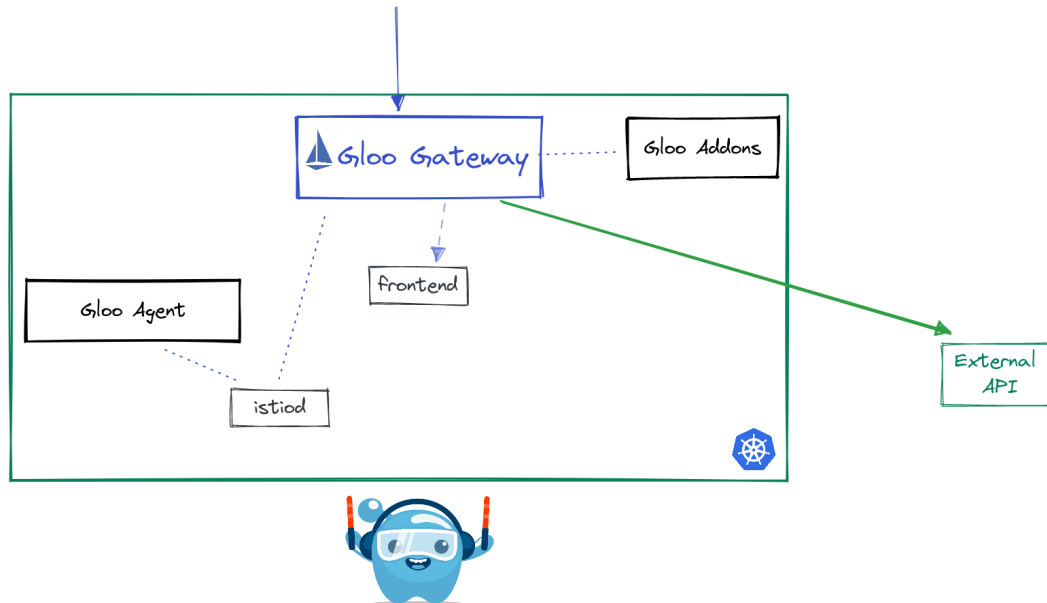


Lab 17 - Calling External Services

Many times users will need to communicate with applications outside of the service mesh. Gloo Platform represents these applications as `External Services`. By telling Gloo Platform about an External Service you are allowing that endpoint to be discovered and routable from applications running inside the service mesh. This concept becomes powerful due to the ability to also apply Gloo Platform policies to it. For example in the below lab you will be securing the `httpbin.org` application with the JWT authentication in the previous lab.



Links:

- [External Service Doc](#)
- [ExternalService API](#)
- Reminder to set the `GLOO_GATEWAY_HTTPS` environment variable

```
export GLOO_GATEWAY_HTTPS=$(kubectl --context cluster-1 -n istio-ingress get svc -l istio=ingressgateway -o jsonpath='{.items[0].status.loadBalancer.ingress[0].*}') :443  
  
echo "SECURE Online Boutique available at https://$GLOO_GATEWAY_HTTPS"
```

Create an ExternalService

- Create an ExternalService reference to the external API.

```
kubectl apply --context management -n app-team -f data/external-service.yaml
```

- Update the RouteTable to route to the ExternalService

```
kubectl apply --context management -n app-team -f data/external-route-table.yaml
```

- Curl and see the response from the external service

```
curl -vk https://$GLOO_GATEWAY_HTTPS/get
```