

Article - Service type ExternalName

Do you know how to map an external host for use in your Kubernetes applications?

It's simple! Let me show you how you can do this.

Let's suppose you have an API endpoint for each squad by namespace, like this:

Endpoints:

- api-credit.mycompany.com
- api-operation.mycompany.com

But you don't want your developers to call this API by the host directly because you want both squads to use the same name. So, you can use the `ExternalName` Service and call it like `myapi.svc.cluster.local`.

By doing this, you ensure that your applications don't make different calls when it's unnecessary, making it simpler for your developers to maintain these applications.

Ok, but how can I do this?

An `ExternalName` manifest is very simple to declare. Let me show you:

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
  name: myapi
  namespace: credit
spec:
  type: ExternalName
  externalName: api-credit.mycompany.com
```

Unlike other services, you just need to set `type: ExternalName` and add the `externalName` key with your host.

Now you just need to apply this manifest to use it in your applications, but remember that you need to apply it to each namespace because the service is namespaced.

Another use case is to set an IP address if you don't have a hostname.

I hope this helps you get started with and understand ExternalName Services.

Thank you guys!