

Overview

The best way to include the required startup options without editing the systemd unit file in place is to use a systemd drop-in file.

Resolution

After completing these steps, you will have enabled the remote API for dockerd, without editing the systemd unit file in place:

1. Create a file at `/etc/systemd/system/docker.service.d/startup_options.conf` with the below contents:

```
# /etc/systemd/system/docker.service.d/override.conf
[Service]
ExecStart=
ExecStart=/usr/bin/dockerd -H fd:// -H tcp://0.0.0.0:2376
```

Note: The `-H` flag binds dockerd to a listening socket, either a Unix socket or a TCP port. You can specify multiple `-H` flags to bind to multiple sockets/ports. The default `-H fd://` uses systemd's socket activation feature to refer to `/lib/systemd/system/docker.socket`.

2. Reload the unit files:

```
$ sudo systemctl daemon-reload
```

3. Restart the docker daemon with new startup options:

```
$ sudo systemctl restart docker.service
```

4. Ensure that anyone that has access to the TCP listening socket is a trusted user since access to the docker daemon is root-equivalent.

Additional Documentation

- <https://docs.docker.com/engine/security/> (<https://docs.docker.com/engine/security/>)