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# Souter's transport group in fast lane

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City Editor

PERTH-based Stagecoach has extended its lead over Aberdeen's FirstGroup as Scotland's largest transport group by market value after its shares rose on a trading update that showed strong growth in its rail business.

Custom byline text:

Stagecoach's shares put on 6.3p, a 2.4% gain, to close at 274.7p as its train operation bounced back from last year when it was hit by snow.

FirstGroup started 2012 as the larger of the two with a market capitalisation of £1.63 billion, compared with £1.57bn for Stagecoach.

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